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Administration of Burma
1912-13 to 1915-16

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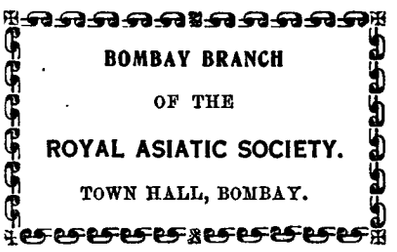

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ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR

1912–13 to 1915-16

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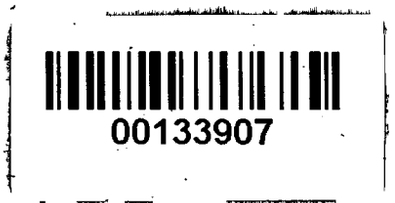

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1912-13.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(1) The Administration; The Frontier States; and the People.

Administration.

1. The Honourable Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year. A new District was created and the changes in boundaries and personnel necessary on its creation were introduced.

The Shan States and Karenni.

2. The Southern Shan States enjoyed peace during the year on their border, and internally with the exception of but a few States, the administration of the country was satisfactorily conducted. There was no increase in violent crime, though ordinary crime increased slightly in some of the States. The approach of the Southern Shan States Railway is having a disturbing effect on the Hsa Möng Hkām State, and the usual concomitant of a new railway—an increase in crime—must be expected. The total revenue of the States increased. The agricultural year was on the whole favourable, and the rice crop was good. Trade expanded and the forests yielded a better revenue. Expenditure on public works increased. In Karenni the Council of the State of Kantarawadi was abolished, and a *Sawbwa* was installed in its stead. Crops were good and the timber trade revived. The construction of the Ngwedaung-Loikaw Canal was completed, and large extensions of paddy cultivation resulted from it. In the Northern Shan States the frontier remained quiet during the year, and the internal administration was satisfactorily, if uneventfully, carried on. Crime decreased, but the volume of it is in any case small. The rainfall was sufficient: the rice crop was up to the average, and other crops fared well though tea suffered from an abnormally hot season. The forest revenue fell owing to accidental and temporary causes. The expenditure on public works increased, the amount contributed from the revenues of the States being over four and a half lakhs of rupees. The total revenue of the country increased and the finances of the various States were generally in a sound condition. In the State of Möng Mit and the two small Shan States of Thaungthut and Kanti in the Upper Chindwin District, the year was again one of peace and prosperity.

The Chin Hills.

3. No events of note happened in the Chin Hills. The unadministered tribes practically gave no trouble and crime was insignificant. Rats again devastated the crops in certain parts, but there was no famine. An attempt was made to combat the spread of leprosy in the northern parts of the hills and further measures are in contemplation. An outbreak of dysentery in the Haka Subdivision caused serious mortality. In the Hill District of Arakan it was found possible to withdraw the Military Police outposts from Pengwa and Sami.

The North-Eastern Frontier.

4. On the north-eastern border explorations were the principal feature of the year. Expeditions were made through Hkāmti Lōng to the headwaters of the Malikha and into the 'Nmai and Mekh valleys. Relations with the Chinese authorities and transfrontier tribes continued satisfactory. Hpimaw was occupied and a post established there. There was a slight decrease in crime. The reservation of some new forest areas in the Bhamo, Myitkyina and Katha Districts was proceeded with. Progress was made in the construction of roads, a mule track from Htawgaw to Hpimaw being almost completed and over thirty miles of new road being made in the Bhamo District.

Condition of the People.

5. The harvests of the year 1912-13 were excellent and prices were maintained at a high level. All classes of the agricultural population benefited from these happy conditions. In Upper Burma the expansion of groundnut cultivation and of irrigation and the enhanced values of upland crops are proving a source of wealth.

(2) The Administration of the Land.

Realization of the Land Revenue.

6. The year was marked by a combination of unusually favourable conditions. The rainfall was excellent both in Lower and Upper Burma, there were but slight floods in Lower Burma, and the price of rice that prevailed in the early part of the year was extremely high and stimulated the extension of cultivation. The assessment reflected these conditions, and receipts showed a large increase over those of the previous year. In some Districts enhanced rates introduced after settlement also contributed to the increase. The total amount of land revenue remitted was less than two lakhs of rupees. The comparative ease of its collection was shown by a substantial decrease in every kind of coercive process.

Surveys.

7. Topographical survey operations were carried out during the year by the Imperial Department of the Survey of India in the Myitkyina and Tavoy Districts. A revisional survey was undertaken by the Provincial agency of the Land Records Department for revenue purposes in the Akyab District, and the surveys in the Bassein District begun in the previous year were completed. A small special staff was entertained to survey accretions of land on the Sittang estuary. Lack of funds curtailed town and fishery surveys. Applications for land for various agricultural and mining purposes necessitated special surveys in some Districts, the cost of the survey being recovered from the applicants.

Settlements.

8. Six Settlement parties were at work throughout the year and were engaged on thirteen settlement circuits. The settlements of the Rangoon Town District, and of circuits in the Amherst, Myaungmya, Yamèthin and Insein Districts were completed. Sanction was accorded to the settlements in the Yamèthin, Amherst and Insein Districts; the resulting eventual enhancement of rates will amount to 31¼ per cent. of the current assessment. The operations in Myingyan, Toungoo and Pegu were continued, and fresh operations were started in four Districts.

Land Records.

9. The rural area under supplementary survey decreased by 205 square miles. The exclusion from the scope of land records work of parts of the Meiktila District on the introduction of a fixed system of assessments accounts chiefly for the decrease. In spite of it, however, there was a considerable increase in the assessed area, brought about by the excellence of the season. Urban expansion led to the introduction of town supplementary survey over an additional 9 square miles, the aggregate town assessments increasing by over one lakh of rupees, though it must be noted that in the figures for the year are included some items of which no account was taken in former years. In consequence of the increase in the revenue from urban and rural areas, the percentage of the cost of the Land Records Department to the total assessment fell considerably. The number of survey schools remained unchanged, but proposals were put on foot to close down the survey school at Prome. The number of pupils increased, but the results of examinations were not as good as in the previous year. Work was continued at the Survey Training camp for Superintendents of Land Records. In November 1912 the camp was moved from Yamèthin to Tavoy.

Transfers of land.

10. The recovery, begun in 1912, was sustained during the year and land transactions show an appreciable increase. Mortgages, sales, and redemptions of land all increased. The high price of paddy led to speculation and money-lenders are reported from several Districts again to be giving extended credit facilities. The sale rate in Lower Burma remained stable, but the mortgage rate rose. In Upper Burma attention was chiefly directed to the non-State land in the canal area in the Shwebo District, and to land in the Pyinmana Subdivision of the Yamèthin District where conditions approximate to those of Lower Burma.

Waste lan

11. The area of waste lands leased for cultivation declined and the figures are now becoming insignificant. The issue of leases to the people of the country of land for the purposes of ordinary cultivation has practically been abandoned, and leases are only issued for land that is to be exploited on commercial lines by means of imported capital. The greater part of the land so leased during the year was leased for rubber cultivation, mainly in the Tenasserim Division. A few leases of land were made in some exceptional circumstances in order to avert disputes. Thus, the accretions from the sea in the Thatôn and Amherst Districts were parcelled out on lease, and leases continued to be issued in the area irrigated from the Môn Canal system in the Minbu District.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. The area in the ownership of non-agricultural absentee landlords increased by 12,000 acres during the year and now amounts to over 1½ million acres. Agriculturists, however, still hold 86 per cent. of the occupied area of the Province,

though in some Districts of Lower Burma they hold less than three-quarters of the land, while in the new Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District they hold only 58 per cent. In Upper Burma the percentage is very much higher. The area let at full rents rose, but the average rent per acre was slightly lower.

(3) Protection.

Legislation.

13. Only two Bills—the Rangoon Port Amendment Bill and the Rangoon Hackney Carriages Bill—introduced in the Legislative Council of Burmá in 1912 passed into law during the year. The Rangoon Port Amendment Act is a measure of some importance. It raises the maximum limit of the river due, and grants certain rights to owners and occupiers of private lands on the foreshore of the river. It contains further a few provisions designed to facilitate the conduct of business. The Rangoon Hackney Carriages Act extends only to the Municipality and Cantonment of Rangoon, but power is taken to extend it to any other local area in Burma. This Act transfers to the Commissioner of Police the jurisdiction over hackney carriages which was vested in the Municipal Committee by Act XIV of 1879. Provisions have also been inserted for the control of rickshaws.

The Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Bill was introduced into the Council during the year, but did not pass into law until after its close.

Police.

14. The Police Administration of the year discloses some displeasing features. An unsatisfactory state of things exists in the lower ranks of the force. There was a considerable shortage of strength, and complaints are general of the difficulty of obtaining recruits and of their bad quality, when obtained. Additions were made to the sanctioned strength of the force, amounting to 205 men, and the cost increased slightly. The conduct of the force was unequal; punishments increased, but a large number of officers and men received rewards for good behaviour. The percentage of literacy shows no change, while the results of the training at depôts were good. The proper housing of the police is a question of much urgency; all is being done that the means of the Province permit. As in preceding years, the growth of crime continued steadily throughout the Province. The increase was in the more serious forms of crime, such as murder, hurt of a serious nature, dacoity and house-breaking. The standard of detection by the police varied but slightly. Good use was made in many Districts of the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure and the results achieved were especially happy in the Thatôn and Mandalay Districts. Punitive Police forces were imposed on the Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts owing to their disturbed condition.

The sanctioned strength of the Military Police remained unchanged, and the force maintained its reputation for efficiency and good conduct. It rendered good service in several operations in unadministered country on the north-east frontier.

An addition was made to the sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police. The conduct of the force shows an improvement. No difficulty was experienced in recruiting, but it was found necessary to lower the physical standard. The town was free from riots and affrays and there was a slight decline in the more serious forms of crime. The percentage of detection was, generally speaking, the same as in the previous year.

Village Administration.

15. The Village Act continued to be administered vigorously. The policy of breaking up large circles was pushed on, but the amalgamation of some village charges in which the policy of subdivision had been carried to excess is being considered. The total number of headmen in the Province decreased slightly. They were of the greatest assistance in the detection and suppression of crime, and in the adjudication of petty village disputes of a civil nature. The number of those invested with special civil and criminal powers further increased. Their collection of the revenue was, as usual, well and honestly done. Fines imposed under the Village Act decreased slightly in number, but rose somewhat in amount. The deportation of one village had a salutary effect on the Prome District, and the Track Law was satisfactorily administered during the year.

Criminal Justice.

16. The year again saw an increase in the number of original criminal cases tried by the courts and in the number of persons punished, corresponding to the increase of crime throughout the Province. It is noteworthy that the number of persons in proportion to the population who were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment in Burma was from three to four times larger than in any other Province of India. Violent crime such as robbery and dacoity again increased ominously in Lower Burma, while cases of hurt increased both in Lower and Upper Burma. Cattle theft also increased in Upper Burma. In both parts of the Province the Benches of Honorary Magistrates were actively engaged in dealing with a large number of petty offences. There was but a slight variation in the percentage of convictions, and the average duration of cases though worse in Lower was slightly better in Upper Burma. In Courts of Sessions in Lower Burma the average duration was no less than sixty-four days. Short terms of imprisonment again figure conspicuously in the list of punishments awarded, but action taken in Rangoon against the horde of alien beggars, chiefly from India, that infest the town, is largely accountable for this. Good use was made of the Whipping Act, but the reformative provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure were regrettably not employed to their full extent. The number of appeals rose both in Lower and Upper Burma, the duration remaining unaltered and the percentage of confirmation showing but a slight change.

Prisons.

17. The convict accommodation in nearly all the jails of the Province, and especially in Lower Burma, was insufficient. At some jails where the accommodation for prisoners under trial was somewhat overtaxed a scheme has now been adopted to carry out some extensions and thus afford relief. The admissions and the daily average strength of the jail population were the highest recorded since 1900. The number of youthful offenders admitted into jail rose slightly, but the percentage of reconvicted prisoners fell, though also slightly. Offences against jail discipline decreased. The high price of food-stuffs increased the average cost per prisoner, and though there was increased activity in production, the net cost of maintenance per head rose. The death-rate was abnormal, rising to 20·69 *per mille*, but the high death rates at Myingyan and Rangoon were chiefly accountable for this great increase. At Rangoon the death-rate was the highest recorded since 1887. The Juvenile Jail at Meiktila continued to be worked on the Borstal system. An improvement was effected in the conduct of the inmates by the transfer of youthful habituals to other jails.

Civil Justice.

18. Economic prosperity brought grist to the Courts of the Province. The number of original suits instituted rose by some 800 in Lower Burma and by rather more than twice that number in Upper Burma. Their total value also increased; in Lower Burma the figure for 1911 was exceeded by fifteen lakhs of rupees and in Upper Burma by over five lakhs of rupees. Disposals kept pace more or less with the increase, and the number of pending suits declined substantially in Lower Burma. The average duration of contested cases in Lower Burma fell slightly, but rose considerably in Upper Burma. In both cases the Judges of the Chief Court and the Judicial Commissioner expressed their dissatisfaction with the figures. Committals to jail of judgment-debtors fell in Lower, but rose again in Upper Burma. There is reason to suppose, however, that the provisions of the Provincial Insolvency Act are becoming better known. The number of appeals preferred increased in the District Courts, but decreased considerably in the Divisional Courts of Lower Burma. The volume of work was well dealt with in the former, but in the latter the average duration made a big stride upwards. In the Chief Court work on the Original Side increased and this combined with the pressure of work on the Criminal Side affected adversely the duration of appeals, though the actual number of appeals preferred was somewhat less than in 1911. The volume of appellate work which came before the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma increased by 20 per cent. and had the inevitable result of swelling the arrears left over in that Court at the end of the year.

Registration.

19. Two new registration offices were opened on the formation of the new District out of the Hanthawaddy and Pegu Districts. The total number of compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property and the total value of the instruments registered rose by 13·0 and 7·7 per cent. Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards and instruments of mortgages both increased in number and value. The high price of rice in Lower Burma, a bad harvest in the Arakan Division which caused enforced sales, and the expansion of the mining industry in the Tavoy District were all contributory causes of the rise. A slight improvement discernible in the figures for Rangoon Town leads to the hope that land values are recovering from the depression from which they have suffered since the collapse of the land boom.

Joint Stock Companies.

20. Only sixteen Joint Stock Companies were floated during the year, representing a nominal capital of Rs. 42·05 lakhs. The public are being given time to forget past misfortunes. In contrast to the previous year the new ventures included only one oil company and no mining companies at all. The most important of the flotations was the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway Company, Limited, formed to construct and work a steam tramway in the Akyab District. Thirteen companies with a nominal capital of Rs. 80·27 lakhs were wound up. Among them was the Burma Rivers Transport Company, Limited, with a paid-up capital of Rs. 14·98 lakhs, which was finally bought up by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, Limited.

Rangoon Municipality.

21. The income of the Rangoon Municipality during the year rose, but so did the expenditure. No fresh taxes were imposed. The improvement of the roads in the town was seriously taken in hand. The town suffered severely from

conflagrations, and the Fire Brigade proving unsatisfactory was reorganized. Street-lighting, the water-supply, the disposal of rubbish, the milk supply, and the establishment of new bazaars were all matters that received close attention from the Committee during the year. The reclamation of town lands progressed but slowly owing to lack of funds. The health of the town was on the whole better than in 1911-12. Deaths from cholera increased, while small-pox and plague show a much reduced mortality. The birth and death-rates fell correspondingly, but the rise in the infantile death-rate is recognized as necessitating special measures.

Minor Municipalities.

22. Other Municipalities showed no change in numbers. The boundaries of a few were revised. The incidence of taxation rose slightly, but no fresh taxes were levied during the year. In them too the year was a healthy one, though several towns suffered from visitations of plague, cholera, and small-pox and the prevalence of malaria. A Provincial Sanitary Service is to be inaugurated, and will it is hoped do much for the improvement of the health of the Province. Large sums were expended on sanitary works, roads and bazaars. Expenditure on public instruction increased. The state of the accounts of the Municipalities as disclosed at audit was generally satisfactory. One new area was added to the already existing areas notified under the Municipal Act.

Military.

23. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of the Province was 9,742 officers and men, of whom 3,573 were Europeans. There was a slight increase in the expenditure on military works. The number of volunteer corps remained unchanged. The number of efficients, excluding reservists, was 4,107 as against 3,669.

Marine.

24. The light-houses and light-ships were satisfactorily served during the year, and the improvements already begun on the Alguada Reef Light-house were pushed on. The pilot service was well maintained.

The Rangoon Port Trust converted a deficit of Rs. 44,000 in 1911-12 into a surplus of Rs. 5·23 lakhs, attributed partly to increased trade and partly to an enhancement of the river due, which produced an increase of Rs. 3·94 lakhs. A loan of Rs. 9 lakhs was raised during the year, thus bringing the amount of the total capital debt of the Trust up to Rs. 263·62 lakhs. Good progress was made with the river training works, some twenty lakhs of rupees being expended on the project. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in advance of the estimated date, December 1915. The Hastings shoal at the entrance of the harbour was a source of anxiety, and it was decided to purchase a dredger to be kept permanently at work on this part of the river bed, meeting the expenditure by an increase of port dues.

Commercial Marine.

25. The number of vessels engaged either in the foreign trade or in the coasting trade, which entered ports in the Province during the year increased. Their tonnage also shows an increase. Two steamers less than in 1911 entered Rangoon from foreign ports, but the total tonnage of the steamers entering increased. Of the steamers engaged in the coasting trade slightly less than one half of the total number for the Province entered Rangoon. Of all ships entering ports in Burma from foreign countries, 63·69 per cent. were British as against 70·04 in the previous

year, the decline being attributed to the diversion of the exports of rice from European to Eastern destinations. A feature of the year was the increase of Japanese vessels, due to the entry of the steamers of the Japanese Company, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, into the Rangoon-Calcutta trade.

(4) Production and Distribution.

Agriculture.

26. The progress of the Agricultural Department continued to be encouraging. The superior and subordinate scientific staffs remained unchanged, and the departmental report points out that the growing needs of the department demand their increase. Experimental work was carried on at the Mandalay and Hmawbi Stations and at Tatkôn in the Yamèthin District. Much teaching and advice was disseminated through the medium of co-operative societies. Efforts were made in different Districts to push the cultivation of wheat, groundnut, castor and sugar-cane, and to improve the cotton, paddy and tobacco already grown. The question of the experimental gardens was considered during the year, and measures for their abolition, or retention and transformation were decided on. The work of the chemical branch of the department increased, and the entomological and botanical sections were also busy.

No incident of note marked the administration of the Veterinary Department during the year. But the educational record of the Insein Veterinary School was somewhat disappointing, and the educational qualifications of the candidates as yet show no signs of improvement.

Stock and Cattle Disease.

27. The mortality in the Province from cattle disease fell considerably. In Lower Burma an increase of 5,000 deaths is more than accounted for by an outbreak of rinderpest that carried off 9,000 head of cattle in the Mergui and Thatôn Districts, and is further counterbalanced by a decrease of 66 per cent. in the number of deaths in Upper Burma. The decrease was appreciable in every kind of contagious disease, but particularly in the case of anthrax. There was a serious outbreak of surra in the Myitkyina District among the mules brought in from China. Preventive inoculation was carried out in thirteen Districts, and the results were satisfactory. Proposals for extending facilities for inoculation against rinderpest were under discussion during the year, and the use of segregation camps was further extended. The growth in the numbers of agricultural stock was general and normal, with the exception of sheep that are in insignificant numbers in the Province, and again show a slight decrease.

Weather and Crops.

28. The season of 1912-13 was marked by excellent crops. The rainfall was good over Lower Burma, and in Upper Burma the uplands in the dry zone benefited by favourable early and late rains. In irrigated areas the water-supply was ample and a fair harvest was also gathered in riverine tracts. The occupied area increased, while the area left fallow fell by 9 per cent. and the area on which crops failed to mature fell by as much as 49 per cent. All Districts, both in Lower and Upper Burma, shared in the general prosperity, and decreases where they occurred were slight and unimportant. The area under rice increased greatly, and likewise the area under every kind of crop save wheat rose. Even groundnut and sesamum enjoyed a coincident expansion, all the more remarkable as generally

the gain of the one is the loss of the other. The area under cotton showed a substantial increase. The irrigated area increased, government irrigation works contributing largely to the increase. Of this area 94 per cent. was under rice.

Outturn and Prices.

29. The outturns for the Province reflect the figures given above. The estimate of the rice outturn placed it at 97 per cent. of normal, and the exportable surplus was calculated to be 2·6 million tons, as against actual exports of 2·4 million tons, in 1911-12. To the great benefit of the cultivator the magnitude of the crop did not keep prices down. Speculation based on a strong foreign demand from the Straits, China and Japan raised them to Rs. 220 per hundred baskets in July, when paddy was actually imported from Bengal. Prices subsequently broke and at the end of November 1912 they hovered round Rs. 140, to drop to Rs. 125 by the end of February 1913, rallying however towards the end of the year. Better storage accommodation in the Districts strengthened the position of stock holders, and for the first time prices in the Districts for considerable periods stood higher than in Rangoon. The yield of the other crops was also plentiful and generally higher than in the previous year. Natural causes operated to keep down the price of sesamum, maize and millet, but in spite of heavy crops, the price of groundnut remained at the previous year's level, while the price of cotton tended to rise where combination at the factories did not reduce it.

Agricultural Loans.

30. The advances made to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to much the same amount as in 1911-12, but good harvests made repayments easier, and 83 per cent. of the amount due was collected within the year as against 76 per cent. in the previous year. Suspensions of payment also were less numerous. An increased use of the facilities offered by the Land Improvement Loans Act was made in some Districts, and the sum lent out under the Act, though small, was double that in the preceding year. The extension of Co-operative Credit Societies, it is surmised, will in process of time render the issue of such loans unnecessary.

Co-operation.

31. The co-operative movement continued to gain strength during the year, both in Upper Burma where it is now firmly established, and in Lower Burma where conditions are somewhat different. A Central Bank was opened at Sagu to finance societies in the Minbu District and the Upper Burma Central Bank at Mandalay largely increased its business. Its loans to societies amounted to close on Rs. 17 lakhs, and it held Rs. 15·25 lakhs of deposits. It paid a dividend of 9 per cent. and carried a substantial sum to reserve. The management of the Pakôkku Central Bank improved. The number of Rural Credit Societies increased largely and they showed a bigger profit. The larger portion of them are formed into unions, and the number of these unions increased correspondingly. Good progress was made with the Môn Canal Colonization Scheme. Urban Societies increased but slightly. Hopes are entertained of the resuscitation of the silk industry at Amarapura by means of them, and, if the experiment is successful, of the extension of the same measures to other languishing industries. A few societies for the sale of grain and railway sleepers were working during the year and showed gratifying results. Cattle Insurance Societies increased so rapidly that registration had to be discontinued until a re-insurance scheme was

introduced. Proposals for the establishment of a Central Re-insurance Society are now being examined. The inclusion of death from rinderpest in the risks covered by cattle insurance is advocated.

Horticulture.

32. Of the two Agri-Horticultural Societies of the Province, the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon improved its financial position and enlarged its Committee by the introduction of representatives of the native communities. The annual exhibition of flowers, plants and fruits was successfully held. The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society had no history during the year of report.

Forests.

33. A net area of 887 square miles was added to the area under forest reserves in the Province during the year and the total area covered by forest reserves in the Province now stands at 27,023 square miles. Work was done on the survey of forests and the settlement of proposed new reserves, but large areas still remain to be surveyed and settled. A special forest survey is required as well as a supply of officers to examine and report on the areas still available for reservation. Working-plans were drawn up for large areas in the Bhamo and Ruby Mines Divisions, but the areas awaiting operations in the Province is still very large.

Offences against the Forest Laws increased. The exhaustion of the supplies of timber and fuel on public lands in parts of the country led a population impatient of control and of the Forest Laws to commit offences in reserved forests. Greater activity too is alleged on the part of the forest staff. Protection from fire was successfully carried out during the year. Cattle grazing in reserved forests is but scantily allowed, and no damage is reported to have been caused by it, save in a few reserves in the plains of Lower Burma, where the total disappearance of trees and scrub jungle on public lands is driving the cattle into the reserves. The amount of teak extracted by Government agency declined, but extraction by purchasers increased by 3 per cent. The high price of teak is leading to attention being paid to other kinds of timber, the increase in the extraction of reserved timbers being most marked in the Tenasserim and Pegu Circles.

Mines and Quarries.

34. There was a slight lull in the mining activity in the Province, and applications to prospect and explore for minerals declined slightly in number, though the number of applications actually made was very far from insignificant. The scramble for wolfram ore and other minerals in the Tenasserim Division and particularly in the Districts of Tavoy and Mergui continued, but no new discoveries of wolfram were made, and the actual production of wolfram fell in the Tavoy District, though it increased in Mergui. The exploitation of the oil-fields in Upper Burma continued apace, and the output of petroleum in the Province during the year constitutes a record. Oil is being won at greater depths in the Yenangyaung field, and the development of petroliferous areas in the Minbu and the Upper Chindwin Districts is being pushed on with vigour. Exploration for oil is also being conducted in other parts of the Province. The gold dredging in the Irrawaddy River in the Myitkyina District again proved disappointing, but the local market for rubies was good, and the Burma Ruby Mines Company is extending its operations into fields where new discoveries of stones have

been made. In the Northern Shan States the production of lead slag and silver ore declined slightly.

Manufactures and Factories.

35. The Indian Factories Act, 1911, came into force during the year and a whole-time Inspector was appointed to enforce its provisions. The Act applies to factories in Upper Burma as well as factories in Lower Burma; hence a large increase in the number of the registered rice and saw-mills. Industries connected with rice and timber, together with the oil industry and a few engineering yards are the only industries that have attained to any large dimensions in the Province. The number of cotton mills also increased. The average daily number of operatives engaged in factories rose, the greater portion being employed in the Rangoon Town and Hanthawaddy (Syriam) Districts. The rate of wages for unskilled labour remained unchanged; it is liable to fluctuations as the country is dependent on India for its supply of labour.

Maritime Trade.

36. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Province exceeded that of the preceding year by nearly 18 per cent., and the balance of trade amounted at the end of the year to over 11 crores of rupees. The advance was marked both in the case of imports and of exports. Rice accounted for only 62 per cent. of the exports, as against 72 per cent. in the previous year, but the value of the shipments rose by 14 per cent. owing to the high prices prevailing. Notable increases took place in the exports of petroleum and timber and good harvests led to a rise in the exports of groundnut, raw cotton and tobacco leaf. These increases allowed of considerable increases in imports and the quantities imported of cotton and silk manufactures, liquors, sugar, oilman's stores and hardware rose considerably. The people of the country show a decided taste for canned and bottled provisions, and increased purchasing power allows them to indulge it. In about ten years the value of the condensed milk and biscuits imported has risen from Rs. 3 lakhs to Rs. 40 lakhs, and during the year the amount of condensed milk imported into Burma was double the amount imported into the rest of India.

Though the great bulk of this maritime trade continued to pass through Rangoon, increasing port charges and difficulties of shipment in the harbour are tending to bring the port into disfavour. It still, however, easily outdistances the other ports in the Province. The port of Bassein increased its rice export trade, and the ports along the Tenasserim coast are also improving their export trade.

Transfrontier Trade.

37. There was a large expansion of the Transfrontier trade of the Province. The restoration of order in Yünnan induced great commercial activity in Western China and the changed conditions were reflected in the trade of the Northern Shan States, which increased considerably. On the other hand, a poor harvest affected trade adversely in the Southern Shan States, while epidemics of small-pox and malaria and an outbreak of rinderpest checked the trade with Siam.

Public Works—Roads and Buildings.

38. A new Public Works Division, designated the Twante Canal Division, with headquarters at Rangoon, was formed during the year. Lack of funds still restricted the expenditure on civil public works and there is little of importance

to note. The sums available for expenditure on roads and buildings differed but slightly in quantity from those of the previous year, and were insufficient. A special grant of Rs. 20 lakhs was made by the Government of India for the improvement of communications, but the condition of communications throughout the Province is unsatisfactory. New roads are wanted and old roads need improving and repairing, especially in the matter of bridges, which are all showing signs of age, and which, moreover, built of timber in past ages are proving inadequate and unfitted to sustain the heavier and denser traffic of modern days. A comprehensive scheme for the development and improvement of communications, together with proposals for financing the scheme, was submitted to the Government of India during the year. The need of additional buildings for various purposes and of improvements to existing buildings is also being felt. As noted in the previous year, projects among others for the suitable housing of the police throughout the Province and for the enlargement and improvement of Court houses and jails are being postponed owing to lack of funds.

The buildings for the new Government Press, in Rangoon, were completed during the year. A Court house and Record Room for the new Insein District were also built. An engineering yard at Dawbong, Rangoon, was purchased for Rs. 1·12 lakh for the repair of Government vessels. Several schools and hostels were put up; and over Rs. 2 lakhs were spent on acquiring sites for a new civil station at Insein and a lunatic asylum near Rangoon.

Railways and Tramways.

39. The total mileage of open railway line was increased slightly during the year by the addition of some sixteen miles of line opened on the Southern Shan States Railway which is under construction. No other line was in course of construction, but numerous proposals for new lines were considered and some surveys were executed. At the instance of the Government of India, the question of Railway communication between India and Assam was revived during the year. Breaches of the line were unimportant, and accidents were few. The net profit on the year's working showed a substantial increase. The number of passengers carried increased largely, and the percentage of receipts to capital outlay on the main and subsidiary lines show in the main satisfactory improvement.

Little progress was made with the construction of the tramway from Buthidaung to Maungdaw, and work on the Madaya-Mandalay Light Railway came to a standstill. The Electric tramways in Rangoon and Mandalay continued to improve their traffic receipts.

Irrigation and Navigation Works.

40. The two major irrigation works of the Province, the Shwebo and Mandalay Canals, maintained by the Public Works Department profited by the excellence of the season. The area irrigated from them increased, and the percentage of return on the outlay improved in the case of Mandalay but decreased slightly in the case of Shwebo. A larger area was also irrigated from the recently opened Môn Canals, and receipts began to come in. The Ye-u Canal was still under construction at the end of the year. The minor irrigation systems, chiefly in the dry zone of Upper Burma where the rainfall is generally precarious, fared no less well than these major systems. A large number of them are protective rather than productive of revenue, but even so the net revenue

from them during the year nearly trebled itself, the deficits of some Districts being more than counterbalanced by the surpluses of others.

The navigation works were not prosperous. The Sittang-Kyaikto Canal showed a loss on the year's working, and the Pegu-Sittang Canal a decreased profit. The floating weed commonly known as the Missouri hyacinth invading the latter canal, caused much trouble and expenditure. Work on the scheme for the improvement of the Twante Canal, explained in the *General Administration Report* for 1911-12, continued during the year. Land was acquired, dredging operations carried out, and marginal embankments raised. Three dredgers were also purchased. At the end of the year the outlay on the work amounted to Rs. 38·45 lakhs.

(5) Finance.

Provincial Financial Settlement.

41. The Provincial Settlement regulating the financial relations of the Imperial and Provincial Governments, drawn up in 1907 and subsequently modified in 1911, remained in force during the year. Contributions for Educational, Sanitary and other purposes received from Imperial Funds amounted to Rs. 98·18 lakhs, as against Rs. 48·95 lakhs in 1911-12. They included a grant of Rs. 30 lakhs for the mprovement of communications in the Province.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

42. Receipts on behalf of the Imperial Revenues decreased by Rs. 10·27 lakhs to Rs. 374·13 lakhs, while Imperial expenditure increased to Rs. 77·38 lakhs. Provincial receipts rose by nearly Rs. 92·08 lakhs to Rs. 608·32 lakhs, the expenditure falling to Rs. 519·58 lakhs. The receipts of Local Funds showed only small variations. Receipts of District Funds and other Local Funds decreased slightly, but Municipal Funds show an increase. The expenditure of District Funds decreased, but that of Municipalities and other Funds increased.

Land Revenue.

43. The gross receipts under Land Revenue as up to the 31st March 1913 amounted to Rs. 451·60 lakhs, and exceeded by some Rs. 34 lakhs the receipts of the previous year. Of this at the final adjustment Rs. 70·03 lakhs were credited to Imperial and Rs. 381·56 lakhs to Provincial Funds. The excellent harvest combined with high prices resulted in the Land Revenue proper yielding some Rs. 26 lakhs more than in the previous year. The capitation-tax in Lower Burma and its equivalent in Upper Burma, the *thathameda*-tax, also gave a better yield, the excellence of the harvest neutralizing the high price of paddy and so averting any trouble that might have been anticipated from it. The fishery revenue increased slightly though not uniformly, and the receipts under Miscellaneous Land Revenue also showed an increase. The revenue included under this head derived from petroleum was markedly higher than any previously recorded.

Customs.

44. The total gross receipts of the Province during the year under the Imperial head "Customs" increased by Rs. 21½ lakhs. Trading conditions were excellent and both exports and imports contributed to the improvement. The expenditure rose slightly and the net revenue finally amounted to just over Rs. 184½ lakhs showing an increase of Rs. 21·39 lakhs as compared with 1911-12. The net customs revenue of the Rangoon Custom House rose by over Rs. 12 lakhs and amounted to Rs. 165¼ lakhs. The customs revenue of the subordinate ports in the Province increased by some Rs. 7⅓ lakhs.

Salt.

45. The Salt establishment was amalgamated with the permanent Excise establishment during the year, and its strength increased, the percentage of the cost of the establishment to the revenue realised rising from 6·86 to 9·39 per cent. The local salt industry is said to have supported with ease the imposition of a duty of 10 annas per maund made in 1911, and it has been decided again to raise the direct duty rate and the composition rates in 1914. The total output of local salt in the Province increased, but while Districts under direct taxation show an increase, Districts under composition duty reveal a slight decrease. Imports of foreign salt decreased by slightly over 17 per cent., but a comparison with the figures of 1911 only would be untrustworthy, as the figures of that year were abnormal. The total revenue derived from salt during the year fell by just over Rs. 2 lakhs in comparison with the previous year. The imports of salt from Germany were as usual the largest, but the figures for importation from the United Kingdom compare favourably with those of the years 1909 and 1910.

Excise.

46. The draft Excise Bill for Burma was considered during the year and its provisions are under examination. The reorganization of the Excise, Opium and Salt establishments took effect from the 1st June 1912. It is surmised that the sanctioned cost of the Excise establishment will in future years absorb about 10 per cent. of the gross receipts of the Excise revenue, being proportionately three times as much as for the whole of the rest of India in 1911-12. It has been decided to debit $3\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the total cost of the combined establishment to the Imperial head "Salt." The increase in the gross Excise revenue during the year was Rs. 8·34 lakhs and was largely due to an advance of nearly seven lakhs of rupees in the receipts from opium. The consumption of the drug fell during the year by just over 10 per cent. but the advance of 25 per cent. in the wholesale price made at the end of the previous year counterbalanced the effect of smaller issues. This decline in the issues of opium was very marked in the four northern Districts of the Mandalay Division and considerable in Akyab and Rangoon. The number of registered Burman opium consumers continued to diminish and now stands at 11,080. In spite, however, of this apparent falling off in the opium consumption of the Province, the contraband trade in opium and drugs still bulks large, and there is much reason to fear that opium is merely giving way to drugs even more deleterious. The cocaine habit is spreading slowly but surely over the whole of Lower Burma, while morphia dens in Rangoon constitute a serious and growing evil, under present conditions almost impossible to eradicate.

The revenue from liquor license fees and duty increased by over one lakh of rupees but it is believed that the increase arises from the displacement of illicit liquors and not from a spread in the habit of drinking. Nearly half of the receipts from excisable liquors were contributed by the country beer shops. There was a decline of Rs. 1·32 lakh in the revenue from the sale of imported liquors and locally produced spirit excised at the tariff rate, counterbalanced by a very large increase in the imports of foreign liquors, especially ale, beer and porter, reflecting the prosperity of the people consequent on the good harvests of the year. In pursuance of the policy experimentally adopted in the previous year, the contract distillery system was extended and 24 new shops were opened for the sale of distillery-made spirit. The total revenue from the spirit so produced more than doubled itself, although a reduction in the rate of duty was made in some parts of the Province to enable it to compete with the product of illicit distillation.

47. The stamp revenue again declined, but the decline was small, being under three-quarters of a lakh of rupees, and the receipts under the Stamp Act actually showed an increase. A recovery in this branch of the revenue would seem to be imminent, for though depression in the money and stock markets consequent on the failures of 1911 still prevailed in Rangoon, the external trade of the Province continued to expand and land as an investment showed signs of regaining popularity. **Stamps.**

48. The yield from the income-tax was slightly larger than in the previous year. In the Districts outside Rangoon the collections responded to the favourable trade conditions and were the highest recorded. Tavoy stands out conspicuously with an increase of 40 per cent. in the number of assessees and of 151 per cent. in the amount of the tax, while in Prome the amount of the tax rose by 55 per cent. In Rangoon Town the receipts were seriously affected by the depression in the petroleum industry, four oil companies alone between them paying in as tax nearly one lakh of rupees less. There was an increase of nearly 6 per cent. in the number of persons paying tax on salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by Government. The amount of securities taxed increased by Rs. 24·71 lakhs; 58 companies paid the tax as against 53 and the number of assessees under other sources of income rose approximately by 8 per cent. **Assessed Taxes.**

49. The Forest Revenue for 1912-13 amounted to Rs. 115·76 lakhs, and showed an increase of Rs. 21·46 lakhs. The expenditure fell from Rs. 41·69 lakhs to Rs. 40·47 lakhs, being curtailed owing to the poor condition of the finances of the Province. The net profit of the Department realized during the year was Rs. 75·30 lakhs. This is an increase of Rs. 22·7 lakhs over the profit realized in the previous year. **Forests.**

50. The net Provincial receipts rose by Rs. 92·08 lakhs, while the net expenditure fell by Rs. 9·26 lakhs. The chief sources from which the Province derives its revenue are the Land taxes, the Excise taxes, the Forests and the Irrigation works. Each of these sources yielded an increased revenue during the year. Imperial contributions to the Provincial revenues also increased by Rs. 49·23 lakhs. Expenditure on Public Works, Irrigation, Forests and General Administration fell, but increased on Education, Police, Jails, and Land Revenue. Operations on the north-eastern frontier further increased "political charges" by some $4\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees. The most costly department of the Province is the Police Department, which absorbed during the year Rs. 129·24 lakhs. Public Works cost close on Rs. 83 lakhs, while over forty-five lakhs of rupees were spent on the Education and Medical Services. **Provincial Revenue and Finance.**

51. The number of Local Funds was increased by the addition of a new District Cess Fund, opened on the formation of the Insein District and of a new Town Fund opened for the town of Thôngwa in Lower Burma. The total receipts of all the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma, amounting to Rs. 30·97 lakhs, show a real increase of close on two lakhs of rupees, in sympathy with the increase in the collections of land revenue, from which they derive the bulk of their receipts. In Upper Burma the District Funds show a decrease of just over one lakh of rupees in their receipts which amounted to Rs. 6·17 lakhs. The expenditure of these funds **Local Funds.**

differed but slightly in amount from that of the previous year, and with the exception of the funds in three Districts in Upper Burma which closed with deficit balances, they were all solvent at the end of the year. Both the income and expenditure of the seven Cantonment Funds increased, and all were solvent at the end of the year. The Town, Port, Pilot and other Funds banking with Government closed the year with adequate balances to their credit.

Municipal Finance.

52. The income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly one lakh of rupees, and the expenditure by over Rs. 2½ lakhs. The revision of assessments continued to swell the receipts from rates and taxes, and the revenue from other sources also increased. The increase in expenditure was fairly general but the increases under administration charges, water-supply, conservancy, and roads stand out conspicuously. The Municipality's closing balance at the end of the year was large, but a great portion of this consisted of the unexpended balances of loans. The incidence of taxation rose and is now just over Rs. 10 per head of population. Two loans amounting to Rs. 7·91 lakhs were raised during the year, and brought up the indebtedness of the Municipality at the end of the year to Rs. 198·68 lakhs. The charges for the service of these loans are not inconsiderable. Most of the funds for the different services have debit balances. The receipts of the Reclamation Fund are largely swallowed up by the charges for the service of the loans.

The other Municipalities in the Province increased their aggregate income while reducing their aggregate expenditure. Their closing balance was consequently higher than at the end of the previous year. The average incidence of taxation rose slightly, but is far below that of Rangoon, while the total indebtedness is smaller.

Note circulation.

53. The average net circulation of currency notes for the year increased by 29 per cent. over that of 1911-12 and amounted to Rs. 458·82 lakhs. This growth in circulation was almost wholly due to the increased circulation of notes of the denomination of 10 and 100 rupees. But the circulation of the 10-rupee note outstripped for the first time that of the 100-rupee note, and the 10-rupee note now supplies 51·61 per cent. of the total volume of currency as against the latter's 44·31.

(6) Vital Statistics and Medical Services.

Births and Deaths.

54. The area under registration remained unchanged but the figures for the population have been revised. The birth-rate in the Province exceeded the death-rate by 5·09, the birth-rate being 32·13 and the death-rate 27·04 *per mille*. In 1911 the excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate was 7·57. The infantile death-rate for the Province was 228·15, or a rise of 6·28 *per mille* of infants born, both the rural and the urban rate showing a slight increase on the rate in the previous year. The number of births recorded decreased by some 5,800 and the number of deaths increased by 18,800 or 1·91 *per mille* of the Census population. The increased mortality is ascribed to malaria, cholera and small-pox. The Minbu District in particular suffered severely from a virulent epidemic of malaria, which followed the introduction of irrigation into areas previously unirrigated. It is gratifying to note that the use of quinine by the people of the Province is growing in popularity. Both cholera and small-pox claimed a larger number of victims.

55. The mortality from plague shows a welcome decrease. The actual number of deaths fell by a little more than 50 per cent. the death-rate falling from ·61 per cent. in 1911 to ·31 per cent. The Divisional Plague Scheme, under which systematic rat drives had been organized, was finally abandoned during the year, and it was decided to combat plague in future directly by inoculation and evacuation and indirectly by raising the general level of sanitation. Plague.

56. The total number of hospitals and dispensaries in the Province is now 265. The total number of patients treated at them during the year increased largely. The increase to 519 of the daily average number of out-door patients seeking treatment at the Rangoon General Hospital is particularly striking. Among in-door patients the mortality compared favourably with that of the previous year. The percentage of Burmese treated to the total number of patients again increased slightly to 54·03. The need of a separate institution in Rangoon for chronic and incurable cases is being felt. Cholera and dysentery made their appearance in the Lunatic Asylum in Rangoon, causing heavier mortality. Some progress was made with the question of the construction of a new asylum, and a site for it was selected near Rangoon and acquired. Medical Relief.

57. The Provincial Sanitary Board ceased to exist during the year, and its place was taken by Divisional Sanitary Boards. The total expenditure of the various municipal and local authorities on sanitary works amounted to close on 27 per cent. of their total incomes, and is an indication of the attention that is being paid to sanitation. Schemes for rebuilding the bazaars at Pegu, Paungdè and Toungoo are in hand, while other schemes include a water-supply for Pegu, drainage and a water-supply for Mandalay and tube wells for Gyobingauk and Mergui. Sanitation.

58. Though there was a slight decline in the number of vaccinations, re-vaccinations showed a satisfactory increase of 29·52 per cent. The total number of successful operations of both classes also showed an improvement of 6·15 *per mille* on the average of the previous five years. Verification of the work by the District Medical officers was unequal. The amount of lymph prepared and issued at the Vaccine Depôt at Meiktila again exceeded the amount in the previous year. Vaccination.

(7) Instruction.

59. The claims of education on the public purse were by no means neglected during the year. Special grants were sanctioned by the Government of India in 1911-12 and 1912-13 from Imperial Funds to the extent of Rs. 12½ lakhs of which Rs. 3 lakhs were recurring grants and Rs. 9½ lakhs non-recurring. These grants rendered possible the initiation of many schemes for the expansion and improvement of education in the Province. Among others were the erection and equipment throughout the Province of school buildings and hostels; the improvement of salaries and the establishment of special classes for the training of elementary teachers; the restoration of the old rates of results-grants which had been reduced in 1908-09 owing to the financial stringency from which the Province was suffering; the improvement of female education, and an increase in Education.

the subordinate inspecting staff of 9 Deputy Inspectors and 4 Sub-Inspectors. Other important changes were the formation of the Arakan Division into a separate charge under an officer of the Indian Educational Service, and the introduction of the teaching of English reading and writing which had hitherto been begun in the fourth standard, in the third standard of Anglo-Vernacular Schools. The question of establishing a University for the Province was finally decided in the affirmative. A draft Bill was submitted to the Government of India and an assignment was made from Imperial Funds. A definite advance has thus been made in the direction of realizing the policy laid down at the close of the quinquennial period terminating at the end of 1911-12. The total expenditure on Education rose by nearly Rs. 6 lakhs and amounted to Rs. 53·36 lakhs. Of this Rs. 22·32 lakhs were contributed from Provincial Funds, the balance being supplied from Local Funds and private sources. School fees increased by nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs. The number of educational institutions increased during the year by 1·6 per cent., and the attendance improved by 3·2 per cent. Public primary schools increased slightly in number and attendance. Private institutions greatly outnumber public, but the large majority of private schools are monastic and the average attendance at them was only 11 against an average attendance of 34 at primary public schools. Secondary education prospered, both Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Schools increasing their numbers and improving their attendance. This improvement is manifest at every stage of instruction. The results of the Vernacular seventh standard examination were even poorer than in the previous year. Collegiate education continued to attract an increasing number of students and the results at the examinations of the Calcutta University improved considerably.

The Government School of Engineering at Insein continued to be poorly attended, but steps have been taken to enhance its popularity with Burmese students. The number of Normal schools remained unchanged, but students were more numerous. Schools for Europeans increased. The attendance of Mahomedans at schools improved and more Mahomedan schools were opened. Schools for special classes increased, and attendance at them rose considerably, the advance being chiefly among the Karens, Talaing and Shans. About two-thirds of the total number are Karens, who, as a race, evince a deep interest in and a strong desire for education. Female education continued to make rapid progress. The increase in the number of girls under instruction at public institutions during the year exceeded the average annua increase of the last quinquennium.

Literature and Presses.

60. The literary output of the Province differed but little from that of previous years. It was mainly religious and dramatic, and the languages employed were chiefly Burmese, Pâli and English. The works themselves are not of arresting interest. Newspapers are numerous, and the number of printing presses increased.

Arts and Sciences.

61. Three exhibitions of Art Handicrafts were held during the year. These included local exhibitions at Bassein and Mandalay, of which the latter is a new venture, as well as the Annual Provincial Exhibition in Rangoon. All three were successful.

(8) Archæology.

Archæology.

62. Excavations were continued during the year at Pagan and Hmawza. At the latter place a further discovery was made of inscriptions in the Pyu language, and hopes run high that light will now be thrown on the forgotten language and history of the Pyu people. It has also been decided to carry on excavations round Pegu, a neighbourhood that is rich in the relics of the Talaing epoch.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references, on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue, the measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes, Lunatic Asylums, the Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist, the Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, and the Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1912; the Shan States, Chin Hills and the North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1912 to the close of June 1913. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1913.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ended the 30th June 1913.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1913.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier for the year ended the 30th June 1913.
Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ending the 30th June 1913.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1913.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country, Area Climate and Chief Staples

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.
Form of Administration.
Character of Land Tenures: System of Survey and Settlement.
Civil Divisions of British Territory
Details of the last Census: Tribes and Languages.

For information on the foregoing subjects, a reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 76 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Changes in the Administration.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K. C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year. **The Lieutenant-Governor.**

2. A new District, called the Insein District, with headquarters at Insein, was formed with effect from the 1st April 1912, by the incorporation of the Insein Subdivision of the Hanthawaddy District and the Hlègu Township of the Pegu **Administrative territorial changes.**

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District. The old Hanthawaddy District, consisting of the Kyauktan and Twante Subdivisions, was re-named the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District, but the location of its future headquarters was left unsettled. Modifications were made in township boundaries in the Amherst, Prome and Ruby Mines Districts; while the headquarters of the Kanaung Township of the Henzada District were removed to Myanaung.

Additions to and changes in the Administrative Staff.

3. The creation of the new District entailed a few changes in the administrative staff. The appointment of Subdivisional Officer, Dabein, in the Pegu District, was abolished, and the appointment of one Subdivisional Officer created for the Insein District at Taikkyi. The appointments of Additional Magistrate, Pegu and Dabein, and of Additional Magistrate, Insein, were abolished, and an appointment of Headquarters Assistant and Additional Magistrate, Insein, was sanctioned as well as one of Treasury Officer and Headquarters Magistrate, Insein. The appointments of Judge of the Township Courts, Hlègu and Kawa, and of Judge of the Township Courts, Pegu and Thanatpin, were subdivided. Elsewhere the appointment of Township Officer, Prome, was created, and Headquarters Assistants were sanctioned for Myitkyina and Tavoy. The appointment of a Junior Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies was created, and a separate grade for Probationary Myoôks formed. The Excise and Salt Departments were reorganized on a permanent basis from the 1st June 1912.

Relations with Tributary States, and Frontier Affairs.

(i) *Shan and Karenni States.*

[*Southern Shan States:* 38 *States, area* 36,154 *square miles, population* 836,574, *tribute Rs.* 2,73,550; *Karenni: five States, area* 4,280 *square miles, population* 63,628, *tribute Rs.* 5,350; *Northern Shan States: five States, area* 16,594 *square miles, population* 480,390, *tribute Rs.* 1,54,500; *Möng Mit: area* 3,562 *square miles, population* 53,214, *tribute Rs.* 20,000; *Hsawnghsup (Thaungthut): area* 579 *square miles, population* 7,697, *tribute Rs.* 400; *Singkaling Hkämti (Zingalein Kanti): area* 583 *square miles, population* 2,560, *tribute Rs.* 100; *Khämti Löng (Kanti-gyi) or Bhor Kampti: area* 973 *square miles, population (approximate)* 11,000, *tribute* Nil.]

The Southern Shan States.

4. The year in the Southern Shan States was uneventful and on the whole prosperous. The administration of the States was satisfactorily and in some cases excellently conducted by their Chiefs, but there were some notable exceptions. In Möng Nai the administration is reported to have been inefficient and corrupt. In Mawkmai internal dissensions culminated in the murder of the Judicial *Amat* and a few months later in the looting of the State treasury of all its contents. The small State of Loi Ai was afflicted by the misconduct of its Chief, who extended his protection to cattle thieves and proclaimed offenders. The Chiefs of these two latter States were removed, and successors appointed in their stead There was peace on the Chinese border throughout the year, and little crime on the frontier. On the Mekhong no complaints were received from the French authorities. The disputed boundary in Möng Hang was finally settled in favour of Siam.

The sanctioned strength of the battalion of Military Police (1,136 of all ranks) remained unchanged. Its conduct was excellent. The difficulty of getting suitable Sikh recruits was still felt, but the supply of a good class of Gurkhas and Shans continued. The Shan half-company was brought up to full strength, but it is pointed out that the erection of married quarters for it is an urgent necessity. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police was 96 as in the previous year. The conduct of the force is spoken of unfavourably, though some good work was done. The work of the local police-forces maintained by the different States was unequal and generally unsatisfactory. Its quality is said to vary in direct ratio with the efficiency of the administration of the State. In the Yawnghwe State, where the largest number of cases was dealt with, detection was poor and the conduct of officers was unsatisfactory. In the Myelat there was a large increase of crime in the Hsa Möng Hkäm State, and many of the cases were beyond the capacity of the State Police. Railway construction is said to have had a disturbing effect on this State. In the Loi Ai State the police were found to be hand-in-glove with

criminals. The number of cases reported during the year was 1,082 as against 955 in 1911-12. There was no increase in violent crime, but a striking increase of cattle thefts took place in the Myelat, the figures being 104 against 53 in the previous year. There was, however, a corresponding decrease in the number of cattle thefts in the other States. The number of civil suits filed was 664 as compared with 632 suits in 1911-12. The number pending at the end of the year was reduced to 45. The agricultural year was on the whole favourable. The rainfall was better than in 1911, though the water level of tanks, wells and rivers was lower. The winter was mild, but the hot weather was unusually hot. The rice crop was good, except in the Myelat, where an insect pest and a break in the rains caused damage. The crops other than rice were generally satisfactory. The health of the cattle was good west of the Salween, but there were sporadic outbreaks of cattle disease. In the Kēngtūng State the losses of buffaloes and oxen from rinderpest, and of ponies from anthrax, were heavy. There was also great mortality among swine. An addition of 5·3 square miles was made to the area of reserved forests during the year. The total area of reserved forests is now 1,598·3 square miles, of which 2·25 square miles are in the Yamèthin District. Forest offences were few, and there was a successful year's girdling; in all 9,655 teak logs were extracted as against 11,968 in the previous year but there was a deficit on the year's working, the expenditure being Rs. 1,05,261 and the revenue Rs. 95,233. In 1911-12 the figures were Rs. 95,030 and Rs. 84,484 respectively.

The extraction of lead amounted to 12,872 viss, produced from the Sizet and Kanbani mines. Little or no work was done at the other mines. There were 32 applications for prospecting licenses; 13 were granted and 10 were pending at the end of the year. The trade of the States with Burma is dealt with in Chapter IV. The expenditure on public works amounted to Rs. 5·36 lakhs, as against Rs. 5·19 lakhs in the previous year. Of this Rs. 2·50 lakhs were contributed by Government; Rs. 1·61 lakhs were spent from the States' revenues and Rs. 1·26 lakhs from remissions of tribute.

The number of patients treated at the hospitals and dispensaries in the States rose to 2,240 in-door and 65,489 out-door patients, as against 1,672 and 49,610 in 1911-12. Of these 14,428 out-door and 403 in-door patients were treated at the hospital on the railway line under construction under the control of the District Medical Officer of the Southern Shan States Railway. Good work was done in the direction of vaccination, and the sales of quinine increased. Education continued to progress, though slowly. The number of registered public schools is not reported to have varied from the number, 72, given in the previous year. The number of pupils at the Taunggyi School for the Sons of Shan Chiefs fell from 76 to 68. An exodus was organized by some of the boys during the year and 32 actually ran away, but peace was quickly restored through the good sense of the boys' parents.

The total revenue of the Southern Shan States rose from Rs. 10·34 to Rs. 10·82 lakhs. It would have been larger had the collection in all the States been properly conducted.

The Karenni States.

5. The States of Karenni likewise enjoyed a prosperous, if uneventful, year. The Karenni-Siam border was peaceful and the migration of some 60 families from Siamese territory into Karenni was the only event of note. In Kantarawadi, the most important of the States in Karenni, the council of elders which had been administering the State was abolished on the 8th July 1913, and a '*Sawbwa*' formally installed in its stead. The offences reported rose from 42 to 93. Of these 4 were violent crimes—all murders. Only 4 cases out of 14 cases of cattle theft reported ended in conviction. All the States were reported to have failed to deal properly with this form of crime. The number of civil suits declined. A Gambling Regulation was introduced in all the States, and a proposal to introduce an Explosives Regulation in the States of Kantarawadi and Bawlakè was considered. The crops were good, and there were extensions of paddy cultivation of 1,000 acres in Kantarawadi, of 350 acres in Naungpalè and of 100 acres in Nammèkôn. The larger portion of these extensions was irrigated from the Ngwedaung-Loikaw Canal, which thus proved its usefulness. Further extensions are anticipated in the future. There were no epidemics among cattle. The timber trade revived; the high prices ruling for

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teak rendered it profitable to extract such timber as is still left in the forests. Work at the Mawchi mines resulted in the extraction of 1,202 cwts. of tin and wolfram concentrates. A crushing mill has still to be erected. In the Kantarawadi State Rs. 64,000 were spent on public works from the State's funds and Rs. 2,500 from remission of tribute. Smaller amounts were spent in the other States. The most important work was the construction of the Ngwedaung-Loikaw Canal in Kantarawadi; the canal was completed during the year and improved. The Kantarawadi State alone of the States boasts of a budget. The revenue of the year amounted to Rs. 1·53 lakhs, but was exceeded by the expenditure which amounted to Rs. 1·77 lakhs. The financial position, however, was not unsound, the credit balance at the end of the year being Rs. 14,552.

The Northern Shan States.

6. The Northern Shan States were undisturbed during the year. The frontier remained quiet and the only cause for any apprehension was the persistent disputes between the amiable octogenarian Chief of Manglün State and the unadministered Wa States beyond his border. This Chief claims control over some of these States and his intrigues served to keep the villages on his border in a perpetual state of uneasiness. The State of South Hsenwi sustained a great loss in the death of its Chief, Sao Naw Möng, K.S.M. He was succeeded by his eldest son Sao Song. The sanctioned strength of the Military Police Battalion at Lashio remained unchanged. The health of the men was good and their discipline excellent. The strength of the Government Civil Police was raised during the year to a total of 112 of all ranks by the addition of one Inspector, two head-constables and 21 constables. This was done in order to strengthen the hands of the police at Namtu where the Burma Mines Company is located. The force was in bad order at the beginning of the year, but an improvement was effected before its close. The various States' police-forces were not as efficient as they might have been.

The Northern Shan States are neither a criminal nor a litigious country. The number of offences reported fell from 823 to 798, and the number of cases disposed of by the courts also fell slightly to 676; 37 cases remained pending. There was a decrease in violent crime from 33 to 25 cases. The number of civil suits filed was 544 as against 535, but the value of the suits only just exceeded half-a-lakh of rupees. The rains were late, but the rainfall was sufficient. The rice crop was up to the average and the other crops fared well, though tea suffered from the very hot weather that was experienced in the States. Cattle disease was sporadic and slight. In the early part of the year, some distress was caused among the hill tribes by the scarcity of rice: but a good harvest relieved the pressure. The area of reserved and unclassed forests remained unchanged. The revenue on teak paid by Messrs. The Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, Limited, fell from Rs. 57,912 to Rs. 11,609, but this was due to extraction being impeded by a block of logs in an underground channel of the Namtu. The revenue on other timber increased to Rs. 14,467: but the demand for fuel of the Burma Mines Company, Limited, is so great that the whole neighbourhood of Namtu and Bawdwin is threatened with denudation, if extraction is carried on in the same manner and on the same scale. This matter is to receive early consideration. The Burma Mines Company, Limited, continued working throughout the year. The total tonnage treated at the smelter was 37,254 tons. The Company spent a large sum on the improvement of its railway. Details of the trade of the States are given in Chapter IV. The expenditure on public works from State funds during the year was Rs. 4·69 lakhs: expenditure from Provincial funds amounted to Rs. 48,818. Most of the work done was in road-making and bridging. The need of skilled supervision was felt, and steps are being taken to supply an additional engineer. The number of hospitals and dispensaries remained unchanged at 8, but the number of out-door patients treated increased by 3,329 to 31,381, and of in-door patients by 96 to 1,626. A new dispensary at Kyaukmè was in course of erection during the year. There was no plague and small-pox was uncommon, but a bad outbreak of cholera occurred at Manpwè near the railway station and at Namtu on the premises of the Burma Mines Company, Limited. The spread of the disease at this latter place was aided by the insanitary conditions of

the premises. The number of vaccinations performed was 5,225. The number of registered schools in the States increased from 26 to 28, and the number of pupils from 1,089 to 1,320. The Government Vernacular School at Lashio had a successful year, and is increasing its accommodation for pupils.

The total revenue of the Northern Shan States rose from Rs. 11·63 lakhs to Rs. 12·23 lakhs and the total expenditure from Rs. 11·41 lakhs to Rs. 12·19 lakhs. Of the five States, the State of Hsipaw increased its receipts by Rs. 14,029 to Rs. 5·48 lakhs, and its expenditure by Rs. 7,611 to Rs. 5·57 lakhs. It had a closing balance of Rs. 1·03 lakhs as against one of Rs. 1·12 lakhs in 1911-12, and had in addition Rs. 60,000 invested in Government paper. The States of Tawngpeng and North Hsenwi had satisfactory closing balances. The finances of South Hsenwi will need prudent administration. No reliable figures are available for the State of Manglün.

Other Shan States.

7. In Möng Mit the year was a prosperous one and the condition of the people continued good. The financial position of the State was sound. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 1·79 lakhs as against Rs. 1·53 lakhs in 1911-12, and the expenditure to Rs. 1·72 lakhs as against Rs. 1·56 lakhs. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 89,987 as against Rs. 82,041 at the end of the previous year. A few minor changes were made in the administration of the State. The office of Judicial Assistant was abolished and an *Amat* was appointed as Assistant to the Chief. The rainfall was good, the crops did well, and there was no scarcity. Crime was light.

The two small Shan States of Thaungthut and Kanti in the Upper Chindwin District continued prosperous. The crops were good, the health of the people and cattle satisfactory, and friendly relations were maintained with the transborder tribesmen. But Thaungthut reported a decrease in population. This is surmised to be due to emigration to adjacent townships.

(ii) *The Chin Hills.*

[*The Chin Hills proper: area (approximately) 8,000 square miles, population 119,556; the Pakôkku Hill Tracts: area (approximately) 2,200 square miles, population 17,128; Hill District of Arakan: area 1,500 square miles, population 22,234; and tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts.*]

8. The administrative border of the Chin Hills remained unchanged during the year. With the exception of the murder of a Kami woman by members of the Sabong Te tribe just within the border of the Lushai Hills the unadministered tribes gave no trouble. In the area between the Naga Hills and the Upper Chindwin District the Kongsai Chief Komyang continued his policy of consolidating his supremacy throughout the Somra tract. In the Hill District of Arakan it was found possible to withdraw the Military Police outposts from Pengwa and Sami. The village of Kung-im in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts was successfully deterred from reviving an old feud with the village of Zaing-im-nu in unadministered territory. Internally also the year was uneventful. Crime remained insignificant, and civil cases, though increasing slightly in the Chin Hills proper, decreased in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts. Rats again devastated the crops in certain parts, but there was no famine. A few measures were taken to alleviate distress, remissions of revenue being granted and agricultural loans issued. The spread of leprosy in the northern part of the Hills received attention and an attempt to combat it was made by allowing villages to segregate their lepers. The attempt failed and a proposal to establish a leper asylum at Falam is under consideration. There was an outbreak of dysentery in the Haka Subdivision of the Chin Hills which lasted six months and caused serious mortality. Cholera and small-pox broke out sporadically, but were successfully checked. Vaccination was carried out on much the same scale as in the previous year. The number of patients treated at the hospitals increased. The average daily attendance at the Government School at Falam increased, but at the Government School at Tiddim the attendance fell off considerably. The Technical School at Falam continued to be popular. The

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collections of tribute amounted to Rs. 66,117 in the main Chin Hills. In the Pakôkku Hill Tracts the amount was Rs. 3,085.

(iii) *The Kachin Hills.*

[*Tracts in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha Districts.*]

9. Explorations of unadministered territory were the principal feature of the year. Hpimaw was occupied and a post established there. An expedition was made through Hkāmti Lōng to explore the headwaters of the Malikha, while a second expedition explored the Mekh and 'Nmai valleys. The two columns effected a junction across the divide between the Mali and 'Nmai valleys, and explored together the Ahkyang valley. The exploration of the headwaters of both branches of the Irrawaddy is now practically complete. Relations with the Chinese authorities and with transfrontier tribes continued satisfactory. Only one transborder raid was committed, and overtures were made by the ' Ngan Chief which may result in the Laban-'Ngan feud being brought to a close. A meeting was held at the instance of the *Taotai* of Têngyüeh at Lweje between the Assistant Superintendent at Sinlumkaba and the local Chinese officials and *Sawbwas*, and 43 cases were disposed of.

Violent crime increased from 6 to 8 cases in the Myitkyina District, but cases in the Bhamo District fell from 8 to 1. The Katha District showed one case as in the previous year. All these cases were murders or attempts at murder. Compensation according to Kachin custom was paid by Government for the murder of two Kachin girls said to have been committed by natives of India. A conviction had not been secured at the trial and failure to pay compensation would have led to a blood feud, in which the Kachins would have wreaked their vengeance on Indians. In the Myitkyina hills the number of ordinary criminal cases instituted during the year was 109, showing a decrease of 7 on the figures of the previous year. Twenty-five cases were pending at the end of the year. In the Bhamo hills 83 cases were instituted as against 94, and 11 were left pending. Cattle theft decreased from 15 to 7 cases. In the Katha District there were 13 cases. The civil cases were all of a petty nature and were generally of an elementary type, consisting of claims on account of the birth of illegitimate children, demands for customary wedding presents from the bridegrooms' families and for compensation on account of the death of women in child-birth. In Bhamo several suits were filed by Kachin villagers against Indian contractors for the recovery of wages due. The collections of tribute rose from Rs. 49,049 to Rs. 50,549. To the increase of Rs. 1,500 Myitkyina alone contributed slightly over Rs. 1,000. Several seizures of opium were made in the Myitkyina and Bhamo Districts. In the Myitkyina hills it is reported that nearly every Kachin village has a small plot of poppy cultivation, and in the Bhamo District it is said that opium and liquor smuggling from the hills to the plains appears to be on the increase. Steps have been taken to discourage poppy cultivation by Kachins and to restrict the area so cultivated. The reservation of three new forest areas in the Myitkyina District was under consideration. The Namme Forest Reserve was notified in the Bhamo District, and the reservation of the Wapyudaung area was considered. In Katha proposals were made to make a new forest reserve on the western slopes of the range of hills to the east of Mawlu. Royalty on rubber decreased from Rs 11,147 to Rs. 7,490 ; the trees in the Hukong valley are said to have been injured by over-tapping. There was a revival in the trade in jade-stone owing to the improved state of affairs in China. The quantity of jade-stone exported was 104,909 viss valued at Rs. 1,52,927 as against 16,745 viss valued at Rs. 49,060. On the other hand no amber was exported from the Hukong valley. The outturn in the preceding year was 890 viss valued at Rs. 2,880, and the reason for the cessation of the supply is not known. The value of the gold won by the Burma Gold Dredging Company was Rs. 2,89,751 as against Rs. 3,64,038. No work was done at the Nanyaseik ruby mines, the corundum mines in Kamaing or the Taungbalaung copper

mines near Pinlôn. Progress was made in road-making. A graded and bridged mule road from Htawgaw to Hpimaw, constructed by the Public Works Department, neared completion, with a branch road up the valley of the 'Nmaikha in the direction of the Ngawchang confluence. In the Bhamo District over 30 miles of new road were made. Inter-village roads were well maintained in the three tracts.

Condition of the People.

10. The harvests of the year 1912-13 were excellent, and prices were maintained at a high level. All classes of the agricultural population benefited from these happy conditions. This was reflected in emigration from the dry zone into Lower Burma after the harvest being on a reduced scale. The demand for labour still exceeded the supply, and a scarcity of labour was reported both in Pyapôn and Amherst, while in Akyab the wages for reaping rose. The condition of the small owner and labourer attains a high level of prosperity throughout the country generally. It is only in small flooded tracts such as are found in parts of Ma-ubin, or in backward isolated areas such as the Hill District of Arakan where the plague of rats causes apprehension, that this is not the case. In Upper Burma a serious outbreak of malaria followed the introduction of irrigation in the area of the Môn Canal. In Yamèthin considerable indebtedness is reported still to exist as the result of a series of poor years, but over the dry zone as a whole the expansion of groundnut cultivation and of irrigation and the enhanced values of upland crops are proving a source of wealth.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1913.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1913.
Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realization of the Revenue.

Demand, collections, remissions and outstandings.

11. Excluding the amounts creditable to cess and irrigation, the land revenue demand for the year 1912-13 was Rs. 2,81·75 lakhs as against Rs. 2,61·06 lakhs for the previous year, an increase of Rs. 20·69 lakhs. The year was marked by a combination of unusually favourable agricultural conditions in almost all parts of the Province. There were very few big floods such as annually cause serious damage in several of the most important rice-growing Districts of Lower Burma and in certain riverine tracts of Upper Burma; while in almost all the important revenue-producing Districts of Upper Burma, where cultivation is ordinarily precarious, the rains were abnormally good. The high price of rice which prevailed in the latter part of the previous year and in the first-half of the year of report provided an additional incentive to the general extension of cultivation. Only two Districts of Lower Burma (one being Rangoon Town) and three of Upper Burma show a land revenue demand smaller than that of the previous year. In Lower Burma in the Amherst District the demand fell by Rs. 7,000 owing to a large amount of unworked land being brought under assessment at fallow rates, while in the Rangoon Town District the fall was quite negligible. In Upper Burma the rains failed in the Taungdwingyi Subdivision of the Magwe District and the demand decreased in consequence by Rs. 41,000. The crops failed over considerable areas of the Shwebo District particularly in the Kanbalu Subdivision and the Kin-u Township owing to scanty rains, and the demand fell inconsiderably by Rs. 2,000. In the Katha District the demand fell by a few hundreds of rupees owing to the crops in the Kawlin, Tigyaing and Indaw Townships suffering from floods and blight and to cultivation being impeded by cattle disease. All these decreases are small or insignificant. In the majority of the Districts the figures are substantially higher than those of 1911-12, with the result that the total demand for the Province reached an unprecedented figure largely exceeding all forecasts based on the experience of past years. The two Districts of Hanthawaddy (Syriam) and Insein for the areas composing them show an increase of about 82,000 acres in assessed area. In Toungoo and Thatôn the assessed area in the two Districts was larger by rather more than 50,000 acres. The increase in the demand was further enhanced in the Thatôn District by the introduction of revised settlement rates in the Pa-an Subdivision and the Paung Township—the total demand for the District exceeding the previous year's demand by just over two lakhs of rupees. In the five Districts comprised in the Delta Tract, the total demand rose by four lakhs of rupees, the increase being most marked in the Ma-ubin District, where the flooded area fell from 21,423 acres to 4,711 acres with a consequent increase in the revenue. The substitution of maximum for intermediate rates of assessment in the Kyaiklat Township and in certain parts of the Ma-ubin Township also contributed to the increase of the demand in the Pyapôn and Ma-ubin Districts. In Upper Burma an increase of Rs. 1·78 lakhs in the Pakôkku demand is accounted for by the introduction of the new settlement rates and a good season. In Minbu the expansion of irrigation from the Môn Canals and favourable rains led to an increase of 15,704 acres in the assessed area. In the Sagaing and the Lower Chindwin Districts the increase in the revenue demand was about Rs. 1·91 lakhs. In Meiktila, where a

new settlement came into force, the demand rose by Rs. 1·23 lakhs, while in Myingyan the revenue demand was the highest on record for seven years, and exceeded that of 1911-12 by nearly one lakh of rupees. In the three Districts along the Arakan coast the demand rose by Rs. 30,648.

The total amount of land revenue remitted amounted to Rs. 1·81 lakhs, and is in striking contrast to the amount of 1911-12 which stood at Rs. 7·11 lakhs. The figures reflect the comparative freedom of Lower Burma from damage by floods. The Districts of Hanthawaddy (Syriam), Insein and Ma-ubin were as usual the principal sufferers from this cause and between them made up 75 per cent. of the total amount remitted, but whereas in 1911-12 the amount remitted in the Ma-ubin District was 15·9 per cent. of the demand, in the year of report the remissions represent only 3·3 per cent. The total remissions represent ·64 per cent. of the total revenue demand.

The total collections amounting to Rs. 279·80 lakhs exceeded those of the previous year by rather more than Rs. 26 lakhs, corresponding to the increase of nearly Rs. 21 lakhs in the demand taken with the decrease of over Rs. 5 lakhs in the amount remitted. Outstandings fell from Rs. 33,601 to Rs. 13,839.

Revenue proceedings and coercive processes.

12. Separate figures for coercive processes for the recovery of land revenue alone are not available. The amount of revenue for the realization of which application for process was made was Rs. 7,43,580, a decrease of Rs. 1,87,161 in comparison with the previous year; and the amount realized was Rs. 5,91,431, a decrease of Rs. 1,51,220. The percentage of recovery, *viz.*, 79·54, remained practically the same. The general prosperity of the year and the comparative ease of collection are reflected in a decrease in the number of every kind of coercive process considerably out of proportion to the decrease in the amount of revenue for recovery. Warrants of arrest were fewer by over 3,000, and warrants of attachment of property by nearly 5,000, a combined decrease of just over 30 per cent. The number of persons actually arrested shows a fall of 37 per cent., that of persons imprisoned a fall of 43 per cent., and that of cases in which property was sold a fall of 47 per cent.

Surveys.

Surveys by Imperial agency.

13. Topographical survey operations were continued during the year by Nos. 10 and 11 Parties of the Survey of India in the Myitkyina District of Upper Burma and in the Tavoy District of Lower Burma. An area of 4,375 square miles was surveyed partly on the one-inch and partly on the two-inch scale. A theodolite traverse of 267 linear miles of forest boundaries was also carried out. Triangulation was carried out in the Myitkyina and Katha Districts and in the south of the Tavoy and north of the Mergui Districts with a view to a detail survey being carried out next season. Tidal operations were continued by No. 16 Party at Rangoon and Moulmein.

Surveys by Provincial agency: Extension and Revision surveys.

14. Revision and extension surveys in advance of settlement were undertaken by a special survey party in the Akyab District. An increase of 6,000 acres of assessed area resulted from the re-survey by 113,000 acres of cultivation. The area for extension survey amounted to $8\frac{1}{4}$ square miles. The recess work of the revision surveys undertaken in the Bassein District in the previous year was completed during the year. A small special staff was employed in the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District on a prismatic compass survey of the accretions to the Alangôn Fuel Reserve on the Sittang estuary.

Town and Fishery surveys and surveys of leased areas.

15. For financial reasons demarcation and survey in towns were restricted to the survey of small areas in Rangoon Town and to a continuation of the work of redemarcating four towns in the Minbu District. In Rangoon Town detail work was completed in two previously traversed blocks of the *ex*-cantonment area, in three sub-blocks of the Lanmadaw quarter in connection with land reclamation,

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and in three blocks of the old Kandawgale quarter where a re-survey was necessary owing to encroachments on Government land by the railway. Besides this, traverse surveys of 1·25 square miles in three blocks of the Dala circle were undertaken. The cost of the detailed work amounted to Re. 1-14-7 per acre. The cost of the traverse was Rs. 438 per square mile. During the recess mapping and area work were completed for Syriam, Mergui, and five towns of the Katha District which had all been surveyed in the previous year. The Land Records officers under training completed the traverse of Yamèthin Town and the detail survey of 117 acres in Tavoy.

No new fishery surveys were carried out, but maps of surveys executed in Tharrawaddy during 1911-12 were completed and sent to press.

Patta and lease surveys by special establishments were conducted in ten districts. The area surveyed was in Akyab 1,720 acres, in Kyaukpyu 8,970 acres and in Sandoway 325 acres, all done on piece-work and paid for at the rate of eight annas per acre recovered from the applicants. In the Insein District 1,919 acres on what is known as the Kôndan ridge were surveyed for the cultivation of rubber and castor oil, the cost being recovered by fees from the twelve applicants at 10½ annas per acre. In Pegu a special staff surveyed 15,368 acres along the railway line consisting of *kaing* grass jungle formerly inundated during the rains but now reclaimed by embankment. The survey was done on behalf of a number of applicants, including certain co-operative credit societies who wished to take up some 7,000 acres for *mayin* and *kaukkyi* rice cultivation. The cost is being recovered by fees at eight annas per acre. In Thatôn last year's accretion surveys were continued. The area surveyed in 10-acre blocks was 9,724 acres. Demarcation is a difficulty in this newly formed area. Fees recovering the cost of survey were levied at rates varying with the size of the allotment. In the Amherst District applications for large blocks of 1,000 to 4,000 acres were received and the necessary surveys were made and were based on theodolite traverses professionally executed. Altogether 12,566 acres were surveyed, the cost of which is being recovered from the applicants. In Tavoy 3,434 acres were surveyed including two large grants for rubber cultivation. Fees at the rate of eight annas per acre were realized. In Mergui the area surveyed was 2,325 acres of which one-third was for mining purposes. The cost was recovered by fees varying with the size of the allotment and the difficulty of survey. In Minbu 1,485 acres were surveyed in waste areas brought under irrigation by the Môn Canal. The available land was divided into blocks and allotted to cultivators. The cost is being recovered by fees.

Settlements.

Progress of Settlements.

16. Settlements were carried on by six parties throughout the year. These parties were at work on 13 settlement circuits and of these five were completed, six were commenced (one being also completed) and three were continued. Soil classification and connected operations were carried out and completed over an area of 1,628,000 acres, the average outturn of a party thus being 271,000 acres, as against a normal average outturn of 250,000 acres. The second circuit of Amherst, the first circuit of Insein, the Settlement of the Rangoon Town District, the first circuit of Myaungmya and the Pyinmana circuit in the Yamèthin District were finally completed and the reports on the operations submitted. Good progress was made with the settlement operations in Myingyan, Toungoo and Pegu. Fresh operations were started in Bassein, Henzada, Insein (second circuit) and Pyapôn.

Financial results and expenditure.

17. The Yamèthin, Amherst and Insein Settlements which were actually sanctioned in the year of report produced an enhancement of demand amounting to six lakhs of rupees, an increase of 31¼ per cent. on the current demand but owing to the application of intermediate rates the immediate enhancement will probably not exceed Rs. 4½ lakhs. The cost of the Yamèthin Settlement amounted to Rs. 77,345 or 9 annas per occupied acre; of the Amherst Settlement

to Rs. 1·51 lakhs or 8 annas per occupied acre, and of the Insein Settlement to Rs. 1·61 lakhs or 6 annas per occupied acre. The introduction of the new rates into these three Districts was sanctioned to take place from the 1st July 1913. The new rates sanctioned in the Yamèthin Settlement will produce an increase of Rs. 1·10 lakhs or 30·2 per cent. on the current demand; in the Amherst Settlement an increase of Rs. 1·39 lakhs or 36·6 per cent., and in the Insein Settlement Rs. 3·54 lakhs or 29·9 per cent.

The expenditure during the year of report on the six Settlement parties operating on 13 circuits was Rs. 4·90 lakhs, to which has to be added a sum of about Rs. 32,000 representing the share of the Settlement Commissioner's Office. The total cost of the department was therefore about Rs. 5¼ lakhs. For the five circuits actually completed during the year, settlement operations cost Rs. 146 per square mile of gross area or 7½ annas per occupied acre. For these circuits the enhancement either sanctioned or proposed amounts to nearly 12 annas per acre occupied.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

18. The rural area under supplementary survey was 50,011 square miles or 205 square miles less than in the preceding year. This decrease was partly due to urban expansion entailing the transfer of outlying suburban tracts from the rural to the town category, but mainly to the introduction of fixed assessments over parts of the Meiktila District and the consequent exclusion of 206 square miles from the scope of land records work. Notwithstanding this fall in gross area the occupied, cultivated and assessed areas were respectively 158,755, 494,830 and 792,399 acres larger than in 1911-12. These figures are explained by the excellence of the season which was marked by an absence of floods in Lower Burma and in the dry zone by a rainfall beneficial to upland crops. Correspondingly the rural assessment increased by more than Rs. 24 lakhs and amounted to Rs. 315·80 lakhs. Factors in this growth apart from the favourable season, were the enhanced assessment rates following on new settlements in Hanthawaddy and parts of Thatôn, the substitution of full for intermediate rates in parts of Pyapôn, Ma-ubin and Kyauksè, and the extension of irrigation in Minbu. But cultivation and revenue in Amherst failed to expand in accordance with the better conditions prevailing.

Normal urban expansion accounts for the additional 9 square miles over which town supplementary survey was introduced during the year of report. There was a corresponding growth of 2,779 acres in the occupied area which now amounts to 95,651 acres. The aggregate town assessments credited to Government amounted to Rs. 10,29,131, which is Rs. 1,21,084 more than in 1911-12. But the figures are not properly comparable, for in the preceding year no account was taken of land rate in lieu of capitation tax, the assessment rolls of which are prepared by revenue surveyors. Again this year for the first time notice was taken of the municipal assessments on covered and uncovered areas which are levied by the agency of the Land Records Department, and which in the year of report aggregated Rs. 4,64,868.

Cost of Supplementary Survey.

19. The total cost of the supplementary survey establishment was Rs. 15·48 lakhs as against Rs. 15·67 lakhs, the revised figures for the previous year; nominal additions, mostly due to the death or retirement of *taik-thugyis*, were made to the staffs of several Lower Burma Districts, but the amount paid in surveyors' salaries was Rs. 32,777 less than in 1911-12 when the coronation bonus was granted. On the other hand, Rs. 10,541 more were spent in contingencies, partly in the supply of grazing ground demarcation posts, partly in the protection of survey marks in towns and partly in the purchase of mathematical instruments for the survey instruction camp. In the final result there was a large fall in the cost of the department from 5·20 per cent. of the total assessment to 4·68, in consequence of the increase in rural and urban revenue.

CHAP. II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND. Training of Officers.

20. The number of survey schools was 19 as in the previous year, but proposals were entertained for closing the Prome School and for placing the Insein School under the control of the Government School of Engineering at Insein. The number of pupils on the rolls at the close of the year was 314. The average daily attendance improved from 298 to 338. Only 15 per cent. of the pupils admitted held seventh standard certificates and the departmental report points out that the low standard of education among the pupils is a matter for regret. The demand for qualified surveyors remains good though in some Districts reservists are long before obtaining permanent appointments in the department. Scholarships which are now of the uniform value of Rs. 10 a month tenable for one year, were allotted to the number of 140. The cost of survey schools was Rs. 39,827 against an income of Rs. 4,071. Their net cost was thus Rs. 35,756. Calculated on the daily average attendance the cost per pupil was Rs. 106. The results obtained at the Syndicate examinations were not as good as in the previous year. Candidates who qualified in Surveying numbered 234, in Arithmetic 200 and in Revenue Law 163. This gives the percentages of passes to candidates as 77, 71 and 60 respectively. The prescribed examination of apprentices was not held in Akyab, Rangoon and Mergui. In the other Districts out of 211 candidates 129 passed and obtained certificates of proficiency. Work at the Survey Training camp for junior and probationary Superintendents of Land Records was continued during the year. Several Superintendents and Probationers completed their course. The camp was moved from Yamèthin to Tavoy in November 1912.

Transfers of land.

21. The statistics of land transactions in Lower Burma which were furnished in the previous year's report indicated that the depression which prevailed from 1906 to 1911 had come to an end. This year's figures show that the recovery has been well sustained. The area sold increased from 455,209 acres to 526,991 acres and the area mortgaged from 259,572 acres to 295,524 acres. The sale rate remained fixed at Rs. 48 per acre, but the mortgage rate rose from Rs. 35 to Rs. 38 per acre. The area redeemed also rose from 169,295 acres to 187,878 acres. The price of unhusked rice, though it fell much below the extraordinary level reached in July 1912, remained high, and the speculative impulses induced by the inflated prices of the preceding year continued in active operation. Many Districts report that money-lenders are again giving extended credit facilities and are enabling cultivators to add to their holdings or to repurchase land which they had lost. The Kyaukpyu District is alone in reporting a decrease in the area sold and the sale rate fell noticeably in only two Districts, Pyapôn and Thatôn. In the former the figures disclose abnormally large transactions in land; 24,000 acres more were sold and 18,000 more mortgaged than in the preceding year. It is reported that many transactions which are really mortgages are registered as sales, the buyer giving a verbal undertaking to reconvey the land when the debt has been satisfied, and this practice tends to the lowering of sale values. In Upper Burma the area sold during the year was 46,639 acres as against 38,798 acres. The increase occurred chiefly in the Shwebo and Yamèthin Districts. In the former brokers are buying up non-State land in the canal area, in the latter conditions in the Pyinmana Subdivision are similar to those in Lower Burma and the same forces were at work there during the year. The drop in the mortgage rate from Rs. 37 to Rs. 32 per acre does not call for note; the figures are so small that the inclusion in 1911-12 of a few acres of urban land was sufficient to inflate the average rate. The area mortgaged during the year was 8,442 acres as against 8,899 acres in 1911-12. The total area under non-usufructuary mortgage at the end of the year in the Province was 1,213,576 acres as against 1,134,813 in the previous year.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

22. The area granted or leased for cultivation shows a fall of 12,639 acres from the figures of the previous year. Of the total area of 32,600 acres some 14,000 acres in all were leased for rubber cultivation, mainly in the Tenasserim Division and in the Insein, Pegu, and Myitkyina Districts. In the Mergui District

the area leased was only 3,616 acres against 19,666 acres in the previous year, no applications being made for the lease of large rubber estates, but numerous small plots of garden land are being devoted to rubber planting. Grants or leases for paddy and similar cultivation were nowhere issued except where disputes were likely to arise over claims to the land, or in special cases such as the allotment of new accretions from the sea in the Thatôn and Amherst Districts. In Thatôn 4,640 acres of such land were allotted in ten acre plots. Leases continued to be issued, although to a comparatively small extent, in the area irrigated by the Môn Canal system in Minbu, of land over which disputes seemed probable. The issue of short-term leases for agricultural purposes in the special lease area of the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) and Insein Districts continued.

Revenue-free grants of land and assignments of land revenue.

23. The area granted free of revenue for religious or public purposes increased by 80 acres during the year. The general prosperity stimulated expenditure on the former. Among the latter a grant of 15·47 acres in Kissering Island in the Mergui Archipelago was made to the Bishop of Rangoon for the establishment of an industrial and educational settlement among the Salôns. In the Insein District a grant of 10·75 acres was made for the American Mission's Karen Theological Seminary, and one of 4·40 acres for the Kemmendine Leper Asylum. The area of the land allotted to village headmen as an appanage of their office (generally known as *thugyi'sa* land) increased by 251 acres. The largest area, 152 acres, was granted in the Sagaing District, where special efforts were made to improve the emoluments of some headmen after the Myinmu rebellion. The increase in the total value of assignments of land revenue was Rs. 1,401 as against Rs. 1,155 in the previous year. The total value of the assignments at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 54,337.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

24. The character of the land tenures in Burma is fully explained in paragraphs 39 *et seq.* of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12. Apart from Government land of the kinds therein described there are no Government estates in the special sense of particular cultivated areas managed by Government after the fashion of a private landlord. There are no wards' estates.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Area held by agriculturists.

25. The area occupied by agriculturists was 14,545,194 acres, being 86 per cent. of the whole occupied area. The area owned by resident non-agriculturists was 965,012 acres, a little less than in the preceding year, but the area in the ownership of non-agriculturists who are also non-resident increased by almost 12,000 acres and now amounts to 1,608,804 acres. In Lower Burma there are five Districts, Insein, Hanthawaddy, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn and Mergui, in which the area owned by agriculturists is less than three-quarters of the total occupied area; the percentage is lowest in the new Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District where it is only 58. In Upper Burma the percentage falls below 90 in four Districts, Minbu, Mandalay and the Lower and Upper Chindwin.

Tenancies.

26. The area let at full rents was 171,507 acres more than in 1911-12, but the average rent per acre was slightly lower, Rs. 13·59 as against Rs. 14·52. Rents are usually paid in produce, and in Lower Burma vary in value with the rise or fall in the price of unhusked rice. Conversion into money values is made on the basis of the price ruling in March and in 1913 that price was not much lower than it had been in 1912. The formation of a settled tenant class renting the same land from year to year is of slow growth. Although the number of holdings let continuously for five years or over was 4,000 more than in the preceding year, the number of tenants who had rented the same holding for five years was barely

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1,000 more. Seven Districts, Bassein, Henzada, Myaungmya, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn, Toungoo and Amherst, report an increase of over 10,000 acres in the area let to tenants at full rates, without counting the newly formed Districts of Hanthawaddy (Syriam) and Insein, which with Pegu show a combined increase of over 47,000 above the figures for the same area in 1911-12. On the other hand, the area in Tharrawaddy was 26,000 acres less and in Thatôn 8,000. Though the area rented in Tharrawaddy fell, the average rent per acre rose to Rs. 17½ and is now the highest paid in Lower Burma. After it come Hanthawaddy (Syriam) and Myaungmya with an average of Rs. 17; in the former the enhanced rates notified after the third settlement have made landlords raise their rents.

Six Upper Burma Districts, in only three of which the area let at full fixed rents exceeded 10,000 acres, report average rents in excess of Rs. 10. The highest is in Minbu, Rs. 20½. In Shwebo the rate, Rs. 10, is double that of the preceding year, but the area let is small, being under 400 acres.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1912.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1912.
Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma for the year 1912.
Report on the measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes in Burma during the year 1912.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1912.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1912.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1912.
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma for the year 1912.
Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1912-13.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1912-13.
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Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Buildings and Roads Branch), excluding Irrigation, for the year 1912-13.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from the 1st April 1912 to the 31st March 1913.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1912-13, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1912-13.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistics of British India, Parts II, V, VI and VIII.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1912-13.
Report on the working of the Government Workshop, Rangoon, for the year 1912-13.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the Legislative Authority of the Province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Course of Legislation.

27. The Legislative year which ended on the 31st March 1913 was one of no great activity. The two Bills—the Rangoon Port Amendment Bill and the Rangoon Hackney Carriages Bill—referred to in the Report on the Administration of Burma for 1911-12 as having been introduced during that year, became law during the year of report as Burma Acts III and IV of 1912. Another Bill—the Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Bill—was introduced during the year, but did not pass into law till after the 31st March 1913. Work of Legislative Council.

The Rangoon Port Amendment Act (Burma Act III of 1912) is a measure of some importance. Its main objects are to give effect to the recommendations of the Rangoon Foreshore Committee, firstly, by raising the maximum limit of the river due so as to enable it to become the main source of the port revenues with a view to the reduction of wharfage dues and, secondly, by permitting theowners or occupiers of private foreshore lands to land and ship goods *bonâ fide* connected with their trade or business. The Act also effects certain amendments which are

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designed to facilitate the conduct of business, by providing for the filling up of temporary vacancies among the Commissioners, for the delegation of powers exercisable under the Act, and for removing, with due safeguards, certain restrictions applying to banking and the raising of loans. The stringency of the provisions of the Act of 1905, which debarred certain of the mercantile representatives on the Board from discussing or voting on matters of policy connected with the port for the reason that they were generally, either in their private capacity or as agents or managers, pecuniarily interested in such policy, has been modified by the amending Act so as to enable a Port Commissioner to discuss and vote upon matters in which his pecuniary interest is one which is shared by the community or by a number of persons outside his own firm. The amending Act, furthermore, permits a Commissioner who represents the Government, a local authority or a railway company to discuss and vote on questions affecting the pecuniary interests of those bodies.

The Rangoon Hackney Carriages Act (Burma Act IV of 1912) extends only to the Municipality and Cantonment of Rangoon, but power is taken to extend all or any of its provisions, with such modifications as the Local Government may think fit, to any other local area in Burma. The object of this Act is to transfer to the Commissioner of Police the jurisdiction over hackney carriages which was vested in the Municipal Committee by Act XIV of 1879. Opportunity has also been taken to make certain provisions with regard to rickshaws and to provide for other matters which experience has shown to be either necessary or desirable. The Act was brought into force after the close of the year of report.

General Acts affecting Burma.

28. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year :—

General Acts of 1912.

VIII.—The Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912.
X.—The Indian Divorce (Amendment) Act, 1912.
XI.—The Local Authorities (Emergency) Loans (Amendment) Act, 1912.
XII.—The Motor Vehicles International Circulation Act, 1912.

General Acts of 1913.

I.—The Indian Extradition (Amendment) Act, 1913.
II.—The Official Trustees Act, 1913.
III.—The Administrator-General's Act, 1913.
V.—The White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Act, 1913.
VI.—The Mussalman Wakf Validating Act, 1913.
VII.—The Indian Companies Act, 1913.
VIII.—The Indian Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1913.

Of the Acts of 1913, Acts I, VI and VIII came into force during the year. Of the General Acts which were passed before the commencement of this year Act XII of 1911 (The Indian Factories Act) came into force on the 1st of July 1912, and Act XVII of 1911 (The Indian Airships Act) came into force on the 15th October 1912.

Regulations affecting Burma.

29. No Regulations affecting Burma were enacted during the year.

Extension of Enactments to Shan States.

30. The Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, and the Indian Electricity Act, 1910, were extended to the Shan States, the latter Act being extended subject to certain modifications. The Indian Tramways Act, 1886, was extended to the Northern Shan States.

NOTE.—The Burma Process Fees Act, 1910, which was mentioned in paragraph 37 of the General Administration Report of Burma for the year 1910-11 as having been passed during that year, did not come into force till the 26th August 1912.

Police.

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Civil Police: strength, recruitment and cost.

31. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police force (excluding the Rangoon Town Police) at the end of 1912 was 15,544, composed of 1,380 officers and 14,164 men, an increase of 12 officers and 193 men, or a total of 205 over the figures of the previous year. The actual strength of the force, however, fell short of this by 37 officers and 803 men. The service was unpopular in the lower ranks, as the pay was small and the road to promotion had been practically closed to the rank and file by the discontinuance, on the recommendation of the Police Commission, in 1907, of the recruiting of investigating officers from the ranks. Steps have been taken to remedy this, and to render service in the lower ranks of the police more popular.

An addition of one appointment in the second grade of District Superintendent of Police was made with effect from the 1st April 1912 on the creation of a new District; the cadre of Inspectors too was increased by three. Three Probationary Assistant Superintendents were appointed by the Secretary of State during the year.

The cost of the force increased from Rs. 56·46 lakhs to Rs. 61·74 lakhs, being swelled partly by the grant of a bonus of half a month's pay to all officers and men whose pay did not exceed Rs. 50 per mensem on the occasion of the Royal Coronation Durbar of Their Imperial Majesties at Delhi, and partly by the payment of increased conveyance allowances.

Conduct, education and training.

32. During the year 557 men were dismissed or removed, and 228 deserted. Both these figures are advances on the previous year's figures. The advances amount to 9·22 per cent. and 4·11 per cent. respectively. Magisterial punishments increased, but the number of men punished departmentally decreased slightly. Eight cases in which violence was proved to have been offered to prisoners by policemen occurred during the year: they were all severely dealt with. On the other hand 7 officers and 36 men were rewarded with special promotion, and 2,121 officers and men received rewards on different occasions. The Police Friendly Society in Ma-ubin has now taken firm root, and has 167 members with 677 shares representing a capital of Rs. 6,770. Its extension to other Districts is being considered. The percentage of literate to actual strength remains at 86. The number of old constables trained at the local depôts during the year increased by 180. Two thousand three hundred and ten recruits underwent training, and the casualties before the completion of training fell by 13 to 357. Ninety-seven per cent. of the recruits appearing for the final examination qualified. The percentage of passes in the quarterly examinations rose from 87 to 93. The conduct of the men at these depôts was good. The results of musketry training showed little change from the previous year. Courses of instruction in First Aid to the injured continued to be given at headquarters of Districts. The Provincial Police Training School at Mandalay was well administered during the year, and the work of the officers and cadets continued to be satisfactory, but sickness was prevalent towards the end of the year among the cadets. This was diagnosed as beri-beri, and effective measures were taken to prevent its recurrence. In addition to the members of the Civil Police force trained at the school, six Excise officers were also trained.

Buildings.

33. Rupees 78,450 were allotted in the budget of 1912-13 for Civil Police buildings, and Rs. 1,30,000 under the head of Petty Construction and Repairs. Rupees 1,40,000 were also expended in renting houses for men for whom quarters were not provided. The proper housing of the Civil Police in the Province is a question of much urgency, while the state of the police lock-ups throughout the country calls for attention owing to the want of sufficient accommodation.

Crime and the working of the Police.

34. There was a further increase in the volume of cognizable crime during the year. The total number of true cognizable cases dealt with by the courts and the police rose from 41,916 in 1911 to 42,767 in 1912. But if petty offences,

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such as infractions of local and special laws, are excluded, the total number of true cognizable cases dealt with was 28,117, an increase of 147 during the year. As cattle thefts and ordinary thefts show little change, the increase is in the more serious offences against person and property. The increase of violent crime in fact in the Province amounted to 119 cases, of which Lower Burma claimed no less than 112. All the Divisions in Lower Burma reported increases, though the Irrawaddy Division with 57 cases was easily first. In this Division the Bassein District shows the largest increase, *viz.* 17, but both Pyapôn and Henzada also shows serious increases. The Myaungmya and Ma-ubin Districts on the other hand show decreases. In the Tenasserim Division there was an increase of 27 cases contributed to by all Districts except Thatôn. The increase in the Pegu Division was 13, but the increase is due to the increase in three Districts, *viz.* Insein, Hanthawaddy and Pegu, where the combined increase is 61, as Tharrawaddy and Prome both show decreases of 11 and 37 respectively. The Arakan Division showed an increase of 16. In Upper Burma the Magwe and Mandalay Divisions show a decrease of one each, the Sagaing Division a decrease of 10, and the Meiktila Division an increase of 16 cases. The fluctuations in these latter Divisions are explainable by the rise and the suppression of local gangs of outlaws.

There was an increase of 64 in "Offences against the State," of which 25 were offences relating to currency notes. Murders amounted to 530, an increase of 77 cases or 17 per cent. over 1911. The increase since 1908 is 48·04 per cent. Cases of grievous hurt increased slightly by 14, and there was a considerable increase in cases of ordinary hurt with a dangerous weapon. The increase was 175 cases, or 11·04 per cent. Kidnapping and abduction declined by 18. Dacoities increased by 51, or 32·08 per cent., and cases of lurking house-trespass or house-breaking by 250, or 6·97 per cent. Robbery was practically stationary, while cattle theft decreased by 10·02 per cent. The total increase in true cognizable cases during the year is 2·03 per cent.: but if violent crimes alone are considered the increase is 8·57.

The standard of detection varied but slightly, and the measure of success achieved by the police is much the same as in the previous year. Sixty-five per cent. of the cases investigated by the police resulted in convictions as against 66 in 1911, while 65 per cent. (excluding petty offences—56 per cent.) of the persons tried were convicted as against 64 and 57 per cent. respectively in 1911.

Important incidents.

35. A notable incident during the year was a rising that took place near Zalun in the Henzada District, headed by the Miyata Pôngyi and the Gamôn Saya. It was quickly suppressed by the Township Officer and a *posse* of police. The two leaders were arrested with a number of their followers, and the ringleaders were afterwards executed. The dacoity at Kyaungdauk village in the Myaungmya District committed by a gang of eight men armed with a shot gun and a revolver is noteworthy owing to the fact that an Anglo-Indian from Rangoon provided the fire-arms, though he himself took no active part in the actual dacoity. He and six of the men were tried and convicted. The dacoity at Htaukkyan *kwin* in the Henzada District is interesting by reason of the defence attempted. Six men were concerned in it and a manufactured gun was used. The headman of the village was slightly wounded in the leg and property valued at Rs. 5,000 was taken. These are ordinary occurrences: but one of the accused prevailed on some one to slit his lip for him with a blow and then accused the Sub-Inspector of having done it at the instigation of the Township Officer. This novel defence was examined and found to be false, and five of the dacoits were transported. Several of the dacoities in the Henzada District were of a ferocious nature: in one of them seven Chinamen and three Burmans took part, armed with two revolvers. They carried off Rs. 18,614 worth of property after killing the son-in-law of the man robbed. In another case dacoits armed with revolvers attacked a Chinaman, killed him and made off with Rs. 4,010. In yet another case the robbers armed with two double-barrelled guns killed two women, and wounded another woman and a man. In a fourth case the owner of the house attacked was shot dead while attempting to extinguish the lighted torches that the robbers were throwing into it. Murder

cases exhibit the same callous brutality. In three cases children in Tharrawaddy were murdered for the sake of their ornaments. In Tharrawaddy a lad of Zeinza village was kidnapped and held to ransom; the money demanded was paid, but the boy was not sent back. His dead body was subsequently found in the jungle. Two similarly brutal cases occurred in the Prome District—in one case a boy of nine years of age was murdered after a ransom of Rs. 400 had been paid: in the other the boy was murdered after a ransom of Rs. 800 had been demanded for him. In the Meiktila District rivalry between the two monasteries at Wetlet village led to a tragedy. A plot was formed to poison the head *pôngyi* of one of the monasteries and arsenic was placed in his drinking bowl, but two junior *pôngyis* drank of the water first and fell victims instead of him. Two notorious criminals were accounted for during the year: one of them in the Bassein District with three companions attacked, by mistake apparently, a sampan in which a Sub-Inspector of Police and two constables were returning from an investigation. The Sub-Inspector of Police shot the leader, who was armed with the gun, and he was secured. The other three robbers escaped. The other, a notorious criminal, Nga San Nyun, the Sagaing outlaw, was arrested by the Rangoon Town Police. He had proved himself a daring robber in the Shwebo and Sagaing Districts.

Offences under Special Acts.

36. Five thousand three hundred and ninety-two cases were dealt with under the Excise Act as against 4,857 in 1911. Several Districts showed greater activity in applying these laws, Tharrawaddy leading with an increase of 140 cases. On the other hand some Districts show heavy decreases, notably Thatôn with a drop of 100 cases. Convictions were obtained in 90 per cent. of the cases brought to trial, and against 80 per cent. of the persons tried.

Large seizures of liquor, cocaine and ganja were made in the Districts. The cocaine habit is reported to be spreading rapidly both in the towns and villages of Lower Burma, and the illicit trade in the drug is said to be in a flourishing condition. Large seizures of cocaine were made in the Tharrawaddy, Insein, Bassein, Henzada, Pyapôn and Prome Districts. Seizures of ganja were made in the Yamèthin and Prome Districts.

There was also an increase in the number of cases under the Opium Act, *viz.* from 2,157 in 1911 to 2,238. The results obtained in the detection and prosecution of cases and persons remain practically the same as in the previous year—2,149 cases ended in conviction and 80·96 per cent. of the persons tried were convicted. The results are good in most Districts.

There was an increase of 226 cases under the Gambling Act. Of the 4,491 cases tried 76 per cent. ended in conviction, while 57·04 per cent. of the persons tried were convicted. Action was taken against 151 professional gamblers and 106 were ordered to find security for good behaviour under section 17 of the Gambling Act. Prosecutions under the Arms Act decreased by 118 cases, but the results are slightly better; 95 per cent. of the cases dealt with and 98 per cent. of the cases tried ending in conviction. The increase of prosecutions occurred mainly in the Irrawaddy, Tenasserim and Pegu Divisions of Lower Burma; 188 fire-arms were seized or surrendered during the year. Criminals continue to make much use of firearms in dacoities and robberies.

Non-cognizable crime.

37. Non-cognizable crime rose from 32,630 cases in 1911 to 36,796 cases in 1912. The increase of 4,166 cases was principally in petty offences, and infractions of local or special laws. There was a decrease of 36 in offences against the State. In all cases 61 per cent. of the persons tried were convicted.

Preventive sections, surveillance and identification.

38. Two thousand and seventy-eight persons were proceeded against under sections 109 and 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and 82 per cent.—the same percentage as in the previous year—of this number were called upon to furnish security. The Tenasserim Division shows a large increase in these prosecutions, *viz.* 106, while the Pegu Division has a decrease of 228. Care was taken, as usual,

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to avoid prosecuting petty offenders, and officers directed their action as far as possible against old and habitual criminals. Vigorous action under these sections in the Kyaikto Subdivision and the Theinzeik police-station led to a cessation of a series of burglaries and robberies with which these areas were being troubled. The most successful of these prosecutions was that of a Burmese woman, who worked with and directed the energies of a gang of burglars. In Yamèthin the presence of timber camps and the establishment of new villages necessitated more vigorous action under these sections, as criminals gather in such places. In the Mandalay District preventive action taken against an *ex*-dacoit gave relief to three Districts—Meiktila, Sagaing and Mandalay. At the close of the year 12,892 criminals were under police surveillance, of whom 2,061 were in jail and 893 untraceable. The correct figure for the criminals under surveillance for 1911 has been found to be 14,034; 3,441 criminals were brought under surveillance during the year of report, and the names of 4,583 criminals were removed from the registers. One thousand four hundred and four absconders were advertised in the Police Crime Gazette during the year, of whom 436 were arrested. The total number of offenders remaining at large at the close of the year 1911 was 6,836: of these, 574 were arrested in 1912 and at the close of the year the total number of absconders was 6,561. Four thousand two hundred and eighty-two offenders were reconvicted, of whom the police identified 4,280 before sentence and the jail officials two after sentence. The work of the Finger Print Bureau greatly increased during the year. Information was asked for in 11,027 cases and was provided in 27 per cent. of the cases. Checking of search slips with the entries in the Police Crime Gazette led further to the tracing of 111 criminals and 86 absconders. Expert evidence was given in 85 cases and written opinion in 49 other cases.

Village headmen and villagers continued to render much assistance to the police in the investigation of crime and the arrest of criminals, but there were occasional failures to offer resistance to armed attacks by robbers and dacoits. Generally speaking, when rewards are liberally given, great assistance is rendered; if rewards are niggardly, neither headmen nor villagers exert themselves to any extent. Forty-eight persons escaped from police custody as against 41 in the previous year. Thirty-one were recaptured. The escapes were mostly of an ordinary character.

Punitive Police.

39. Punitive police forces were imposed on the Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts during the year for a period of five years owing to the disturbed conditions of those Districts. A punitive police force was sanctioned for one year, with effect from October 1912, for some villages in the Yamèthin District for the same reason. The punitive police force in the Amherst District imposed in 1911 and the punitive force of Military Police in the Shwebo District imposed from the 1st January 1912 were disbanded during the year. The latter force had been sanctioned for a term of two years, but its further employment at the end of one year was found to be unnecessary.

Railway Police.

40. The sanctioned strength of the Railway Police remained the same as in 1911, *viz.* 61 officers and 350 men. At the close of the year the force was short of its sanctioned strength by four Sub-Inspectors, two head constables and five constables, but some of the vacancies were filled shortly afterwards. No difficulty is reported as being experienced in obtaining recruits. Fourteen men were dismissed during the year five of them in consequence of judicial convictions. The chief offence is that of fraudulently carrying passengers without tickets, and this form of cheating is said to be only adequately dealt with by dismissal or prosecution. The work of the Training Depôt continued to be satisfactory.

The number of true cases of cognizable crime fell from 1,240 cases in 1911 to 1,084. Ninety-nine per cent. of these cases were investigated, and 727 cases or 68 per cent. resulted in conviction. The percentage is the same as in 1911. Three true cases of violent crime were dealt with and a conviction was secured in two of them. One hundred and one out of 107 excise cases dealt with under the Excise Act and 84 out of 87 under the Opium Act ended in conviction. There were 121

absconders at the close of the year. Only fifteen were arrested during the year. All previously convicted offenders reconvicted during the year were identified by the police before sentence. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

41. The actual strength of the Burma Military Police on the 1st January 1913 was 15,829 officers and men, or 639 below the sanctioned strength. The strength of the Reserve Battalion is reported to be insufficient to meet the demands made on it. Some additions to the strength of the Myitkyina Battalion were made during the year from the Reserve Battalion owing to the establishment of a new outpost at Hpimaw and an addition to the strength of the post at Htawgaw. The Battalion has now become so unwieldy that proposals have been made to reduce the area of its jurisdiction. The discipline of the force on the whole was very good. Departmental punishments increased, but desertions decreased slightly. The relations of the men with the people of the country were, as usual, satisfactory. The health of the force has improved—495 men were invalided as compared with 626 in 1911, and the number of men who went to India on sick leave fell from 569 to 540. One thousand three hundred and sixty-one recruits were enlisted during the year, including of the indigenous races 78 Karens, 58 Kachins, 6 Shans and 4 Chins. Complaints were made of the difficulty of obtaining Sikh recruits and of the bad quality of those obtained. The disappearance of the old Sikh element from the ranks of the force is foreseen. The cost of transport rose from Rs. 1·04 lakhs to Rs. 1·09 lakhs, owing to the high price of paddy in all the Districts and the increase of strength of the Myitkyina Battalion. An outbreak of "surra" in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Ruby Mines Districts increased the casualties among transport animals to 211. One hundred and sixty-eight transport animals were purchased during the year, and a system of permanently hired mules was adopted in the Myitkyina and Bhamo Districts and in the Shan States. One hundred and eighteen remounts were purchased, and there were 114 casualties. Musketry practice was satisfactory. Military Police.

No funds were provided in the budget for any major Military Police work, and many works were not touched for lack of funds. Rupees 65,000 were allotted under Petty Construction and Repairs, but this sum proved insufficient and had to be supplemented by appropriations of Rs. 13,752.

Several parties of Military Police operated in the North-East Frontier during the year. Expeditions were made to the Hkāmti Lōng valley and up the 'Nmaikha valley; Hpimaw was occupied and Htawgaw was reinforced. A strong escort accompanied a survey party in the Lauhkaung-Htawgaw Hill Tracts.

42. The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police now stands at 79 officers and 1,191 men. An increase of 182 men on the strength of 1911 was sanctioned during the year. The actual strength at the end of the year stood at 79 officers (or 81 officers, if two officers on special duty are included) and 1,061 men. The shortage in men was unavoidable, as the increase in strength was only sanctioned late in the year. It will be remedied during the following year, as recruiting presents no difficulties. The cost of the force rose from Rs. 5,21,268 to Rs. 5,36,085. This increase of Rs. 14,817 was mainly due to the sanctioned increase of strength. The conduct of the force shows improvement, dismissals and removals numbering 11 and 12 respectively as against 20 and 16 in 1911. These figures more than offset a slight rise in minor departmental punishments. Discharges, resignations and desertions were insignificant in number. One officer and 407 men were rewarded from the reward fund, 14 officers and 15 men obtained good service certificates, and five officers and three men were commended by Magistrates. Two officers were awarded the King's Police medal for distinguished gallantry. Four hundred and twenty-four men were trained in the depôt as against 303 men in 1911. Of these, 267 were men sent for recurrent training and 157 were recruits. The enlistments during the year numbered 164, including three European Sergeants. No difficulty is experienced in recruiting either among Burmans or Indians, but the quality of the Indian recruits is said Rangoon Town Police.

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to be deteriorating and the Commissioner of Police found it necessary to lower the physical standard.

Owing to the financial stringency, few funds were available for the construction of the buildings already sanctioned. The police-station at Botataung was finished during the year, and the police-station and quarters at Bahan were completed and occupied shortly after the close of the year.

The total number of true cognizable cases for all classes is 12,153 as against 11,199 in 1911, but the rise is chiefly in petty offences which can hardly be looked upon as true crime. Excluding the petty offences which are tabulated in Class VI, the increase is only from 1,523 to 1,614 cases, and even this increase of 91 cases is more apparent than real, as the innovation of registering every case in which a forged bank note is presented, as a separate offence, resulted in an increase of 182 cases. Non-cognizable crime again showed a large increase, prosecutions rising from 7,029 in 1911 to 9,793, but this increase of 2,764 cases falls almost entirely under the Municipal and Cruelty to Animals Acts. There were no riots or affrays in the town during the year. Two desperadoes from other Districts were arrested by officers of the Rangoon police—one in Rangoon after a short fight, and one, a notorious outlaw from the Sagaing District in the Pyapôn District. The coming into law of the new Life Insurance Companies Act led to the detection of wide and systematic life insurance frauds carried out throughout the Province by an Arakanese living in Rangoon. Offences relating to currency notes increased by 182; the increase has been explained. A large measure of success was attained in the detection of such offences, and a gang of Chinese forgers operating in the Dutch Indies and at Hongkong as well as at Rangoon was broken up. Other classes of serious crime displayed little variation. There were three more murders in the town, one more dacoity, and twelve more cases of lurking house-trespass, than in 1911, but on the other hand robberies decreased by three and theft by 88 cases. The percentage of convictions to true cases investigated by the police fell from 65 to 62 per cent., but the fall is due to the registration of cases in which forged currency notes are presented, as 154 out of 186 remain from the very nature of the cases undetected. The percentage of persons convicted to those arrested, however, rose from 80 to 84 per cent. The total value of property stolen during the year amounted to Rs. 1,28,393, of which 39·70 per cent. was recovered. This is a substantial advance on the figures of the previous year. Fifty cases were tried by the Court of Sessions. Of these, 26 ended in conviction, 21 in acquittal and three were withdrawn. There were 987 prosecutions under the Excise Act, and convictions were obtained in 864 cases. The number of prosecutions under this Act nearly doubled the number (513) of the previous year. Four hundred and ninety-five prosecutions were instituted under the Opium Act and convictions were secured in 466 or 94 per cent. of the cases. Thirty-three cases were sent up for trial under the Gambling Act, and 31 convictions obtained as against 20 and 17 respectively in 1911. Sixteen convictions were secured in 18 cases under the Arms Act, but in spite of all precautions cases of misuse of fire-arms are reported to have occurred. Three hundred and twenty-eight criminals were under police surveillance at the close of the year as against 337 at the close of 1911. Twenty-six absconders were proclaimed during the year, of whom two were arrested. Nine absconders from previous years were also arrested. Steps were taken for the creation of another division in the town with the object of relieving the River Police of all land duties.

Village Administration.

43. The Village Act continued to be vigorously administered. In accordance with the policy laid down after the annexation of Upper Burma, the breaking up of "myos" in Upper Burma and of "taiks" in Lower Burma was proceeded with as hitherto and the complete disappearance of *myothugyis* and *taikthugyis* is only a question of time. The increase in the number of headmen drawing commission on their collections of revenue follows as a matter of course. The number of headmen drawing no such commission fell from 2,898 (the revised figure of 1911) to 2,589. On the other hand it is admitted that the subdivision of large village-tracts may have been carried out too drastically in the past and steps are being taken to revise such subdivisions as are now thought to have

been too minute. The total number of headmen in the Province is now 17,753 as against 17,805, the revised figure of 1911. Headmen continue to do excellent work for their people. The number of those invested with special civil and criminal powers shows a further increase this year: from 1,377 and 1,061 respectively in 1911 to 1,402 and 1,144 in the year of report. Their adjudication in petty disputes in the village itself saves the villagers much inconvenience and the courts much time. This can be realised when it is seen that in one District alone headmen disposed of civil suits valued at over Rs. 3,000. These special judicial powers are generally much sought after, and their possession adds dignity to the appointment of headman. The total number of fines imposed by headmen on villagers rose from Rs. 1·34 lakhs in 1911 to Rs. 1·54 lakhs, the greater portion of the increase occurring in the Sagaing District where it is reported that the villagers had got somewhat out of hand. The proportion of headmen's orders which were interfered with on revision remained at 3 per cent. This indicates that the headmen generally used their powers with fairness and discretion. The number of headmen's cases which were examined on revision increased by 3,474, but these figures may not be quite accurate owing to faulty omissions or inclusions. This revisional work by District Officers is of value in that it keeps them in close touch with the facts of village life. The collection of the revenue was as usual very well done by the headmen. A few cases of misappropriation occurred, but they fade into insignificance when the number of headmen concerned in the collection and the enormous amount of work involved in it are taken into consideration. A slight improvement is reported in the work of headmen under the Excise Act, but this work is not popular. They continue to do excellent work in assisting the police in other respects and one District attributes the successful results of the police administration of the District during the year in no small degree to the cordial co-operation of the headmen. This is probably the case with most Districts. In matters of village sanitation, steady improvement is reported. There was an increase of 33 in the number of headmen dismissed, and the number of headmen fined rose from 535 to 643. On the other hand, suspensions decreased by 23 and the number of headmen rewarded for good service increased by 210. In several cases the wives of headmen rose to the height of their husbands' obligations. Several of them distinguished themselves in the Meiktila Division, a conspicuous case occurring in the Yamèthin District where a headman's wife arrested an armed robber in her husband's absence.

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The number of fines imposed on village-tracts decreased from 231 to 221, but the amount of the fines increased from Rs. 92,477 to Rs. 1,15,715. This increase of Rs. 23,238 was mainly due to a number of heavy fines imposed on certain villages implicated in the rising in the Henzada District, but these were afterwards reduced by the Local Government. It was found necessary to remove all the inhabitants of one village in the Prome District, owing to their complicity with cattle thieves. The measure is said to be having a salutary effect. The number of fines under the Track Law remained practically stationary. On several occasions in the Prome, Hanthawaddy (Syriam), Myaungmya and Lower Chindwin Districts villagers showed great spirit in resisting armed dacoits, killing or capturing members of the attacking party. Prompt and substantial rewards were given in all such cases.

44. The total mortality caused by wild animals and snakes among human beings during 1912 was 1,326 as compared with 1,500 in 1911. The decrease is due to the decrease of deaths from snake bite, as the figures for deaths caused by wild animals rose from 63 to 95. As usual the greater number of these casualties must be laid at the door of tigers, 44 persons being killed by these animals as against 36 in 1911. But leopards doubled the number of their victims, *i.e.* from 10 to 20, and deaths caused by bears rose from 5 to 13. Alligators caused 10 deaths. Pegu with a total of 10 deaths, the Ruby Mines with a total of 7 deaths (all caused by tigers) and the Upper Chindwin with a total of 8 deaths were the Districts that suffered most. Deaths from snake bite fell noticeably from 1,437 to 1,231, the Myingyan, Meiktila, Pakôkku, Sagaing and the Lower

Wild animals and snakes.

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Chindwin Districts in the order named showing the greatest improvement in this respect. No reasons are given for the decreases except in Sagaing, where two reasons are offered. It is said, firstly, that the cultivators took to wearing boots, and secondly that the river did not rise to the flood level of former years. The latter seems the sounder reason. Experts themselves continue to differ with regard to the efficacy of Sir Lauder Brunton's lancets, so that the lay opinions of District Officers on this technical question may be discounted. But results reported from two Districts, where the proportion of cases cured to cases treated is reported to have been respectively 80: 149 and 10: 15, encourage and justify a further trial of these lancets. Their popularity among the Burman population is also said to be on the increase.

The total mortality among cattle rose by 35 to 14,479 deaths. Of these, wild animals accounted for 8,416 and snakes for 6,063, the former showing an increase of 483, the latter a decrease of 448. With regard to wild animals nothing can be deduced from the figures for each District, as the yearly variations baffle analysis. Bears this year, however, must be added to tigers and leopards as the worst enemies of cattle. With regard to the cattle killed by snakes, the largest decrease (282) occurred in Sagaing, which last year showed the largest increase (306). The reason is probably the second of the two reasons already mentioned. The largest increase (171)—unexplained—was in the Thatôn District.

The number of wild animals destroyed rose from 3,719 to 5,409, but the number of snakes destroyed fell from 99,964 to 45,788. This fall of more than a half in the number of snakes is to be explained by the reduction of the rewards given in the Insein and Tharrawaddy Districts to one anna. In the Taungdwingyi Subdivision of Magwe where the rate remained at 8 annas, the number of snakes killed exactly doubled itself. The rewards given for the destruction of wild animals and snakes amounted to Rs. 70,680 and Rs. 5,782 respectively, as compared with Rs. 55,938 and Rs. 35,783 in the previous year.

Eight hundred and fifty-six new gun licenses under the Indian Arms Act for the protection of crops or for the destruction of wild animals were issued during the year: the total number now issued is 3,610 as against 1,688 in the previous year. The increase is due to the inclusion for the first time of 1,736 guns issued under section 31 of the Chin Hills Regulation.

Criminal Justice.

General.

45. The administration of Criminal Justice in the Province is in Lower Burma controlled by the Chief Court consisting of five judges and in Upper Burma by the Judicial Commissioner. During the year the Judicial Service in Lower Burma consisted of 79 European Judges and Magistrates, 252 Native Magistrates and 31 benches of Honorary Magistrates and in Upper Burma of 79 European Judges and Magistrates, 129 Native Magistrates and 8 benches of Honorary Magistrates. No important legal enactments or rules affecting the administration of Criminal Justice came into force during 1912. In Lower Burma the number of District Magistrates was increased by one on the creation of a new District out of the Hanthawaddy and Pegu Districts and some minor rearrangements were made. A Headquarters Magistrate was appointed at Insein and a Subdivisional Magistrate at Taikkyi. The appointment of Judge of the Township Court at the Headquarters of the Hlègu Township which was taken into the Insein District was joined with that of 1st Additional Magistrate. In the Pegu District the Courts of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Dabein, and Additional Magistrate, Pegu and Dabein, ceased to exist. The Judges of the Township Courts, Pegu and Thanatpin, and of the Subdivisional Court, Nyaunglebin and Pegu, were made Additional Magistrates.

Relief was afforded to the Magistracy in the Prome, Toungoo, Tavoy and Mergui Districts by a few additional appointments and a readjustment of boundaries. A bench of Honorary Magistrates was created at Pyapôn. No changes in the number or jurisdiction of Sessions Courts were made, but throughout the year Additional Sessions Judges were being appointed in the Hanthawaddy, Delta and Bassein Divisions.

In Upper Burma there were no alterations in the constitution of Districts or jurisdiction of Courts. The strength of the Magistracy towards the end of the year was reduced by two, from 218 to 216. A bench of Honorary Magistrates was constituted for the Town of Yamèthin. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Cases.

46. The total number of offences reported in the whole Province during the year was 108,440, of which Lower Burma claimed 82,487 and Upper Burma 25,953, the former thus showing in comparison with 1911 an increase of 7,314 cases and the latter an increase of 1,127. The growth of crime is steady and three to four times as many persons in proportion to the population were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment in Burma as in any other Province of India. In Lower Burma the number of cases reported as true was 69,675, as against 63,441, and in Upper Burma 22,353 as against 21,617. In Lower Burma the number of cases of hurt reported increased from 6,761 to 7,254 and of robbery and dacoity from 445 to 504 cases. Murders and attempts at murder fell slightly from 318 to 291, and cattle thefts decreased from 1,827 to 1,681. Under special and local laws the number of offences reported under the Gambling Act increased from 3,094 to 3,422, under the Excise Act from 4,710 to 5,408, and under the Arms Act and Rules from 441 to 499. In Upper Burma the principal increases occurred under special and local laws. There were increases of 219 reported cases under the Municipal Act, 203 under the Gambling Act and 189 under the Excise Act. True cases of grievous hurt and rape decreased by 45 and 23 cases respectively, but there was a substantial increase of 110 in cases of simple hurt and 55 or 15 per cent. in cattle theft. The figures for the other kinds of offences show but little variations. In Lower Burma the percentage of true to instituted cases was 84·47 and in Upper Burma 86·13, as against 84·39 and 87·07 per cent. respectively in 1911. In Lower Burma the number of complaints summarily dismissed increased from 2,162 to 2,992 and in Upper Burma from 855 to 1,098.

Disposal of cases.

47. The number of cases brought to trial during the year increased correspondingly with the number of offences reported. In Lower Burma they rose from 74,164 cases involving 130,793 persons to 80,320 cases involving 137,542 persons, and in Upper Burma from 24,114 cases involving 47,404 persons to 24,986 cases involving 49,255 persons.

In Lower Burma District Magistrates tried 567 cases as against 582. Honorary Magistrates disposed of 26,196 cases as against 21,772. The percentage of cases tried summarily to the total number of cases was 43·9 as compared with 40·6, the increase being due to the large number of cases tried by Honorary Magistrates. The percentage of convictions in trials before Magistrates was 60·91 as against 59·57. Under the preventive sections proceedings were instituted against 142 persons, or 2 less than in 1911, with a view to demanding security to keep the peace, and 129 or 90·8 per cent. were ordered to furnish security, while proceedings were instituted against 1,721 persons as compared with 1,963 in 1911 requiring security for good behaviour and 1,277 or 74·2 per cent. were ordered to furnish security. In 1911 the percentages were 91·0 and 77·3 respectively. The total number of cases committed to Courts of Sessions rose from 602 to 663. Substantial additions are reported from every Court but those of the Hanthawaddy and Delta Divisions where there are decreases. The percentage of convictions was 58·7, Prome registering the highest percentage 73·6, and Tenasserim the lowest 33·3. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 50 involving 69 persons as against 86 involving 133 persons in 1911. The percentage of convictions was 53·8 as against 59·6 in 1911. The total number of sentences of death referred to the Chief Court for confirmation was 138. This is a large increase on the 88 of the previous year. The death sentence was confirmed in 82 cases as against 50 in 1911.

The average duration of cases in Magistrates' Courts was 13 days, the same as in 1911. Bassein with 24 days, Sandoway with 22 and Pegu with 20 record the longest, while Rangoon with 2, Northern Arakan with 10, and Henzada, Prome and Akyab with 13 days each record the shortest durations. In Courts of

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Sessions the average duration again rose from 51 to 64 days. Bassein recorded the highest figure; Hanthawaddy with 75 and Tenasserim with 73 came next. Prome registered the best figure,—42. In District Magistrates' Courts the duration was 28. The number of witnesses examined increased with the number of cases from 288,660 to 296,290.

In Upper Burma District Magistrates disposed of 515 cases, or 113 less than in the previous year, of which 275 relating to 444 persons were dealt with under their special powers. The percentage of convictions in these cases was 61·31 as against 68·70. The appointment of Extra Special Power Magistrates at the headquarters of several Districts accounts for the decline in the number of cases tried by District Magistrates. The percentage of convictions before Magistrates was 59·58 as against 58·72 in 1911. The cases of 3,449 persons resulted in composition as against 3,112 in the previous year, but for such compositions the percentage of convictions would have been 67·01 as against 65·66. The benches of Honorary Magistrates disposed of 3,545 cases relating to 3,985 persons, as against 3,872 cases and 4,046 persons. Of these 2,881 cases were from Mandalay. The total number of cases committed to Sessions was 132 as against 151 in 1911. Sessions Courts tried 254 persons as against 288 in the previous year. One hundred and forty-seven cases and 232 persons were disposed of, as against 182 cases and 280 persons. The largest volume of work was in Meiktila, where 50 cases concerning 77 persons were dealt with. The percentage of convictions in all Sessions Courts was 67·24, as compared with 64·29 in 1911. The highest percentage, 83·33, was in the Mandalay Division, the lowest 49·35 in the Meiktila Division, this figure being even lower than the previous year's, which was 51. The cases of 43 persons were referred to the Judicial Commissioner for the confirmation of the capital sentence as against 52 persons in 1911. The sentences were confirmed in the cases of 23 persons as against 28. The number of the persons proceeded against under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure shows a very slight increase. Action was taken against 685 persons compared with 677. Of these 41 persons were ordered to furnish security to keep the peace and 422 to furnish security to be of good behaviour. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 50 and 429. The percentage of success was 5·48 and 8·2 respectively lower than in 1911. The number of applications for maintenance rose from 1,519 to 1,634, of which 922 as against 837 were successful. The bulk of these cases are from the Districts of the dry zone, and poverty is probably the reason for the fathers' neglect of their children. The average duration of cases improved, falling from 13 to 12 days. The number of witnesses examined rose from 96,457 to 98,006.

Punishments.

48. In Lower Burma the number of persons punished in Magistrates' Courts increased from 69,998 to 75,998. The rise has been general under every form of punishment; but the number sentenced to simple imprisonment increased out of proportion to the numbers rigorously imprisoned. The number also of sentences of imprisonment of fifteen days and under rose from 2,766 to 3,916. The ineffectiveness of a short term of imprisonment as a punishment, is generally recognized the rise being largely due to action taken in Rangoon against the horde of alien beggars that infest the town. The number of sentences of rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement decreased from 1,105 to 1,003. The number of whippings slightly increased from 1,640 to 1,656, being the largest recorded since the introduction of the new Whipping Act, 1909, but the percentage of whippings to the total number of all punishments in which whipping might have been awarded declined from 20·8 in 1911 to 18·5. The number of juveniles punished with whipping was 195 as against 124. The amount of fines imposed increased greatly from Rs. 5,05,015 to Rs. 6,17,973. Of this 87·8 per cent. was realized as against a percentage of 88·5 in 1911. The amount awarded in compensation rose from Rs. 25,893 to Rs. 30,701. The amount is considered by the Judges of the Chief Court to be insufficient. The number of first offenders released under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was 933, as compared with 962 in 1911, and 25 boys were sent to the Reformatory School as against 13.

In Upper Burma the number of persons punished rose from 25,550 persons to 26,925. Of these 81·61 per cent. were awarded sentences of fine without imprisonment, and 13·16 per cent. rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinment, as compared with 80·56 and 13·00 per cent. respectively in 1911. Imprisonment with solitary confinement was awarded in 181 cases, and whipping in lieu of other punishments in 539 cases, as against 192 and 513 in the previous year. The number of persons who were sentenced to whipping in addition to other punishments rose from 5 to 10. The percentage of actual whippings to possible whippings was 24·32 or 2·74 lower than in 1911. Fines imposed rose from Rs. 2,36,721 to Rs. 2,74,877, of which Rs. 2,52,227 were realised. The amounts awarded as compensation under sections 250 and 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure declined slightly from Rs. 2,173 and Rs. 20,773 to Rs. 1,697 and Rs. 19,281 respectively. Releases under section 562 numbered 416 or 27 more than in the preceding year. Eleven youthful offenders were dealt with under the Reformatory Schools Act. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

49. In Lower Burma appeals show an increase of 419. They number 7,049 as against 6,630. Appeals to the Chief Court increased from 955 to 1,168. Every Sessions Court records an increase with the exception of the Court of the Delta Division, where there is a decrease of 121. The percentage of sentences confirmed on appeal was 69·8 as against 70·4 in 1911. The decrease is unimportant. The average duration of appeals was 20 days, thus remaining the same as in 1911. **Appeals.**

In Upper Burma appeals rose from 2,216 to 2,520. The number of appeals preferred in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner decreased from 286 to 220. The figures for the previous year were swollen by the appeals in connection with the Myinmu rising. Sessions Courts and Courts of District Magistrates both show increases. The percentage of confirmations was 66·16 or 1·20 higher than in 1911. The average duration of appeals remains unaltered at 19 days.

50. In Lower Burma District Magistrates called for 5,307 cases in revision as compared with 5,625 in 1911. Sessions Judges called for 1,515, a number considerably in excess of the number, 1,151, called for in 1911. The Chief Court called for the same number, 768. **Revisions.**

In Upper Burma District Magistrates disposed of 3,119 cases as against 2,991 in 1911. The number of cases called for under the Criminal Justice Regulation rose from 1,935 to 2,185 and the number of those otherwise called for fell from 1,256 to 839. The percentage of confirmation in each class of case was 93·17 and 92·33 respectively. The Judicial Commissioner dealt with 924 cases, as against 862 cases. The decisions of the Lower Courts were confirmed in 81·78 per cent. of the cases.

Prisons.

51. The accommodation for males in the prisons of the Province in the year 1912 reached 15,320 or an increase of 398, and the accommodation for females was 354 the same as in the previous year. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 16,337, and the total accommodation available was thus exceeded by 663. Taking the convict population alone (15,290) the present accommodation for convicts alone (14,266) fell short of requirements by 1,024. The convict accommodation in nearly all the jails of the Province, especially in Lower Burma, was insufficient, and at some eleven jails even the accommodation for prisoners under trial was also somewhat seriously over-taxed. Proposals were submitted for the construction of two District Jails to accommodate 500 convicts each; but they were negatived, and an alternative scheme has been adopted which will eventually provide additional accommodation for 1,496 prisoners. Notwithstanding the general overcrowding, the number of prisoners employed on unremunerative labour fell from 122 to 45. **Accommodation.**

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Prisoners.

52. The year opened with a population of 15,212 prisoners of all classes; 39,148 were admitted and 37,419 were discharged, leaving the number in confinement at the close of the year at 16,941. The daily average strength of all classes was 16,337, or 56 more than in the previous year. A slight decrease occurred under convicts (49) and civil prisoners (25), while the daily average number of under-trials rose by 130. The decrease among convicts was due to releases on the occasion of the Delhi Durbar in 1911. The admissions and daily average strength were the highest recorded since 1900. The number of juveniles under sixteen years of age admitted into jail was 150 (140 boys and 10 girls) compared with 139 (128 boys and 11 girls) in the previous year, and 336 juveniles, against 263 in 1911, were sent to the jail to be whipped. The percentage of reconvicted prisoners fell from 24·85 to 24·18, the highest figure appearing at Thayetmyo (35·45) and the lowest at Bhamo (11·45). Of the 27 juveniles (24 males and 3 females) under fifteen years of age admitted during the year, five males had been previously convicted, the corresponding figures for 1911 being 43 and 10, respectively. Twenty-three of the male juveniles were transferred to the Reformatory School at Insein. Compared with the previous year there was a decrease of 235, 48 and 5, respectively, as regards sentences of simple imprisonment rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement, and rigorous imprisonment with whipping, while sentences of rigorous imprisonment alone increased by 609. The identification of habitual prisoners was effected, before conviction, in 4,608 cases, and in jail in 8 cases.

Discipline.

53. The offences recorded during the year numbered 34,269, compared with 34,554 in 1912, or a decrease of 0·82 per cent. Penal diet was awarded in 3,031 cases against 2,847 in the previous year. The number of offences dealt with by the courts decreased by 11 and miscellaneous offences by 551. Offences relating to work, to prohibited articles and to assaults, mutiny and escapes increased by 149, 76 and 52, respectively. None of the assaults which occurred during the year proved fatal. The number of prisoners on whom whipping was inflicted was 103, *viz.* 70 on habitual and 33 on casual prisoners. There were 7 escapes against 4 in 1911. Of the 7, five were recaptured during the year. Though the habituals formed only 42·54 per cent. of the total daily average convict population, they received 58·30 per cent. of the total punishments.

Financial.

54. The total expenditure rose from Rs. 10·15 lakhs to Rs. 11·54 lakhs. The average expenditure per head of prisoner rose from Rs. 62-5-11 to Rs. 70-10-6, chiefly owing to the high rates which had to be paid for food-stuffs. There was increased activity in production, however, and the net cost per head only rose from Rs. 48-9 to Rs. 55. The saving to Government arising from the employment of prison labour on jail works and repairs was Rs. 19,049-11-5 as compared with Rs. 15,429-15-9 in 1911. The value of the convict labour supplied to the Jail Branch Press is estimated to have been worth Rs. 62,733, but no credit for this amount is taken in the jail accounts. The value of vegetables raised in the jail gardens increased from Rs. 97,507 to Rs. 99,235 and of the farm produce from Rs. 27,233 to Rs. 43,658.

Vital.

55. The health of the prison population was not so satisfactory as in the two previous years. The death-rate was abnormal, being 20·69 *per mille* as compared with 12·28 *per mille* in 1911 and 11·98 *per mille* in 1910. The highest rates were at Myingyan and Rangoon. A cholera epidemic accounted for the high rate at Myingyan (38·63), while at Rangoon the death-rate (40·96), which is the highest recorded since 1887, is due to the numerous admissions of victims of the drug habit in a moribund condition. Excluding these two jails the death-rate would be 14·78 *per mille* only. Mogôk (54·40), Kyaukpyu (36·93), Katha (29·92), Bhamo (25·90) and Sandoway (21·36) returned the highest percentage of opium consumers admitted to jail.

56. The Juvenile Jail at Meiktila continued to be worked on the Borstal system. The number of boys admitted during the year was 145 and the daily average number in confinement was 85, the falling-off being accounted for by the exclusion of habituals during the latter half of the year; this was the result of a representation made by the Committee of Visitors who pointed out that, if this class of prisoners continued to be sent to the Juvenile Jail, it would be impossible to carry out the requirements of section 27 (*2*) of the Prisons Act, which provides for the separation of various classes of prisoners. The youthful habituals confined in this jail were disposed of by transfer to other jails which possess separate accommodation for juveniles. With their departure, a great improvement took place in the behaviour of the casual offenders. The training in the various trades was much the same as in the previous year. The entertainment of a tinsmith, a sawyer and a blacksmith, all proficient artizans, as instructors to the boys was sanctioned, the master carpenter continuing to be employed as in the previous year. The financial results of the work carried out are not particularly encouraging. Great difficulty is experienced in disposing of the manufactured articles; but the view taken is that the education of the lad is the primary object: the financial profit of secondary importance. The supply to boys released from the Meiktila Jail of craftsman's outfits has been sanctioned The school work was favourably reported on by the Deputy Inspector of Schools. The first standard presented for examination 34, of whom 28 passed; the second standard 11, of whom 9 passed, the third standard 5, of whom 3 passed; the fourth standard 2, both passing. A *pôngyi* (Buddhist monk) attended the jail weekly, throughout the year, and preached to the inmates. The system of manual training for young convicts, introduced in the Rangoon Jail in 1910, has been extended to the six other Central Jails of the Province and, so far, the results have been very satisfactory. Arrangements have been made to present the youthful convicts, on release from jail, with a set of tools appertaining to the respective trades they have been taught, in order to afford them facilities to earn an honest livelihood. The system of manual training is reported to be appreciated by the prisoners, especially by those of the casual class. The principle of the separation of habitual and non-habitual prisoners was, as usual, observed in all the jails of the Province. In this connection certain extensions and alterations were completed at four jails. The revised scheme sanctioned in respect to one jail was divided into three projects, of which two have been completed, and the third, of which the cost amounts to Rs. 16,116, is pending for want of funds. The remission system, which continued to work satisfactorily, is believed to be appreciated by the majority of the prisoners and to conduce to their good behaviour. During the year 4,856 convicts were released under the remission rules. Ten convicts only, who were eligible, failed to gain remission. Among the releases one convict, with a sentence exceeding 10 years, had earned 2 years and 347 days' remission. Special remission was earned by 2,153 prisoners for continuous good conduct, against 1,994 in the previous year.

Civil Justice.

57. The administration of Civil Justice during the year 1912 was controlled in Lower Burma by the Chief Court composed of five Judges and in Upper Burma by the Judicial Commissioner.

In Lower Burma the Judicial Service was composed of 36 European and 148 Native judges and in Upper Burma of 63 European and 121 Native judges.

In Lower Burma a certain number of minor changes in the jurisdiction of several judges were made during the year. Among others on the constitution of the Insein District, a judge was appointed to the Hlègu Township Court in that District, and a judge at Thanatpin in the Pegu District. Various officers were appointed from time to time as Additional, Divisional and Sessions Judges in the Hanthawaddy and Bassein Divisions. In Upper Burma the jurisdiction of courts remained unaltered, but a reduction of two judges was made at the close of the year. Of the two one was the Additional Judge of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner and the other a Township Judge.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

The total receipts of the Courts were nearly a lakh of rupees greater than in 1911. They amounted to Rs. 25,98,625 as against Rs. 25,00,495. The charges, on the other hand, increased by over Rs. 1½ lakhs from Rs. 49,31,909 to Rs. 50,83,330.

Suits.

58. The number of original suits instituted rose by some 800 in Lower Burma and by rather more than twice that number in Upper Burma. The reason given is economic prosperity. Out of a total of 56,931 original suits for disposal in Lower Burma 58,884 were disposed of as compared with 50,323 in 1911. In Upper Burma there were 24,825 suits for disposal and 22,730 were disposed of as compared with 21,090 in 1911.

The number of institutions in Lower Burma during the year was 49,942 and in Upper Burma 22,823. In Lower Burma the percentage of suits for money or moveable property to the total number of suits was practically the same as in 1911. Suits for immoveable property increased by 333 from 1,173 to 1,506, a figure closely approximating to the highest previously recorded, 1,552 in 1904. The number of mortgage suits, 1,866, continued to decline, in spite of the fact that mortgages have increased in number annually and were nearly 50 per cent. more numerous in 1912 than in 1908. The reason advanced is that the high prices that have ruled for paddy and have been enjoyed by cultivators have allowed the latter to meet with ease the interest due on their loans. In Upper Burma the number of suits concerning money or moveable property exceeded the figures of the previous year by about 7 per cent. (20,425 as against 19,178). The number of suits for the recovery of immoveable property rose by 35 per cent. from 688 to 928, and the number of mortgage suits increased by 37 per cent. (700 as against 512). This increase was probably even greater, as many of the suits for the recovery of immoveable property are often nothing more than suits for the redemption of usufructuary mortgages and are always brought on a rise in the value of land taking place. Thus during the year, a sharp rise in the value of land took place in the Môn valley in the Minbu District and this was reflected in a rise in the number of civil suits in the Township Court, Pwinbyu, from 17 to 116. The same phenomenon is seen in other parts of Upper Burma, and during the year, the Minbu, Magwe and Shwebo Districts show large increases under mortgage suits for this reason.

The value of suits rose both in Lower and Upper Burma. In Lower Burma it stands at Rs. 1,75,66,589, a figure larger by Rs. 15 lakhs than the figure for 1911. In Upper Burma the rise was from Rs. 28,36,185 to Rs. 33,53,472. In Lower Burma the Chief Court accounts for Rs. 13⅓ lakhs of the increase, while in Upper Burma 79 per cent. of the rise was accounted for by the Magwe District, where it is reported that alienation of highly valued oil sites led to litigation. The number of suits pending at the end of the year in Lower Burma was 6,047. This figure is lower by 1,318 than that of 1908 and less than any figure since 1904. In Upper Burma 2,095 suits were left pending at the close of the year, as against 1,928 in 1911. The percentage of suits disposed of without contest to the total number of suits was in Lower Burma 72·7 and in Upper Burma 75. In contested suits plaintiffs were successful in Lower Burma in 69 per cent. of the suits and in Upper Burma in 64 per cent. of the suits. The average duration of contested suits in Lower Burma was 85 days, while in Upper Burma it was 68 days. The figure for Lower Burma shows a slight improvement of two days as compared with the figure for 1911 (87 days), but the duration in Upper Burma rises by no less than seven days. The Judges of the Chief Court and the Judicial Commissioner express their dissatisfaction with these figures.

Miscellaneous cases decreased from 8,610 to 7,443 in Lower Burma and from 2,398 to 2,178 in Upper Burma. The number of applications for execution fell in Lower Burma from 40,110 to 38,872, but there was an increase of about 6 per cent. in the number in Upper Burma (12,270 as against 11,583). The total amounts realized in the applications was in Lower Burma Rs. 31·95 lakhs and in Upper Burma Rs. 5·62 lakhs. These figures show an increase in the case of Lower Burma of Rs. 9¼ lakhs, but a decrease in the case of Upper Burma of Rs. 16,104. The Chief Court was responsible for roughly Rs. 7¾ lakhs of the increase in Lower

Burma. The percentage of applications wholly infructuous to the total number disposed of was in Lower Burma 54·8 as against 54·1 in 1911 and in Upper Burma 47·68 as against 48·87. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Five hundred and sixty-two judgment-debtors were imprisoned in Lower Burma, of whom 210 were residents of Rangoon. In Upper Burma 126 were imprisoned. It is pointed out that the proportion of judgment-debtors arrested to those imprisoned is very large, but that the provisions of the Provincial Insolvency Act are being utilized as affording a means of escape. Insolvency cases in Lower Burma again decreased from 452 in 1911 to 422. The number of debtors who apply to be declared insolvent before arrest is increasing, but the number of debtors who apply after arrest is decreasing. In Upper Burma, the benefit of the Act was applied for in 249 cases or 54 more than in 1911.

59. In District Courts in Lower Burma the number of appeals preferred rose slightly from 1,954 to 2,016. The increase has been greatest in the Tenasserim Division, but the Toungoo District shows a small fall. The number of appeals disposed of rose to 2,018. Decrees of Lower Courts were modified in 7·0 per cent., confirmed in 63·7 per cent., remanded in 3·3 per cent. and reversed in 26·0 per cent. of the cases. The average duration increased by 4 days to 62 days. Pending cases number 369 as against 371 in 1911. In Divisional Courts appeals fell from 494 to 396. Out of 591 cases for disposal 406 were disposed of, leaving 185 pending. The average duration was 126 days, an increase of 18 days over the figure of 1911. The percentage of confirmation was 62·1 as against 65·7, but that of reversal fell from 20·1 to 19·5, the percentage of modification rising from 9·7 to 15·5. In Upper Burma 2,049 appeals were before the District Courts for disposal. This is an increase of 120 over the number in 1911. Of these 1,709 or about 83 per cent. were disposed of as compared with 1,487. Three hundred and forty remained pending at the close of the year. The average duration was 80 days, this being 8 days shorter than in 1911. Divisional Courts had 14 appeals before them as against 13. Six cases were pending at the close of the year. The average duration dropped from 110 to 56 days. Appeals.

60. The number of suits instituted on the Original Side of the Chief Court rose from 420 to 462 and the aggregate value of the suits from Rs. 52·30 lakhs to Rs. 65·74 lakhs. The number of suits disposed of was 497 as against 731 in 1911. Only one Judge was engaged on the Original Side from April to the end of the year and the figure this year is a return to the normal. The figures for 1911 were also swollen by the closing of a number of mortgage suits. The number of cases pending at the close of the year was 267 as against 302 in 1911. Of the suits disposed of 34·8 per cent. were contested, as against 38. Plaintiffs were successful in 71·1 per cent. of the contested cases decided as against 74·5 per cent. in 1911. The average duration of contested and uncontested cases fell from 354 and 234 to 332 and 215 respectively. The number of sales of immoveable property was 55 as against 28, and the total amount realised in execution of decrees was Rs. 15·17 lakhs as against Rs. 7·40 lakhs in 1911. Miscellaneous work consisted of 28 applications for Probate, 95 applications for Letters of Administration, 30 cases under the Guardian and Wards Act, 14 cases under other Acts and 90 applications under the Code of Civil Procedure. The Chief Court.

The number of regular appeals preferred fell from 395 to 369. The number disposed of was 367 and the number pending 443. The duration has increased from 359 to 386. Decrees were modified in 4·9, reversed in 21·2 and confirmed in 72·5 per cent. of the number disposed of as against 70·4, 20·0 and 7·3 per cent. respectively in 1911. The Judges point out that these figures indicate an improvement in the work of the subordinate courts. Two hundred and seventy-five cases came before the Court in revision as against 281 in 1911. The number disposed of was 154 as against 192 and 121 cases were left pending. Seven appeals from the Chief Court were pending before the Privy Council at the end of 1912. During the year four were confirmed and one reversed.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. The Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

61. The volume of appellate work that came before the High Court for disposal increased by 20 per cent., the appeals numbering 645 as against 537. Two hundred and thirty-eight appeals were disposed of as against 267; and 407 appeals were pending at the close of the year as against 270 at the close of 1911. The percentage of confirmation was 67·65 as against 65·17 and the average duration rose from 249 to 285 days. On the revisional side of the Court, 321 cases came up for disposal as against 283 in 1911. One hundred and thirty-one were disposed of, with a pending list of 190 as against 149 and 134 respectively. The percentage of confirmation was 75·57 or 5·64 lower and the average duration was 86 days more (234 as against 148). The decrease in the volume of work disposed of and the increase in durations were due to the illness of the Judicial Commissioner. An Additional Judge also was not available during the last three months of the year, except for a few days.

General.

62. Fourteen advocates of the Chief Court, 6 first grade pleaders, and 8 second and third grade pleaders respectively were admitted during the year. Nine first grade pleaders, 106 second grade pleaders, and 487 third grade pleaders renewed their certificates for 1912. The number of second grade pleaders who renewed their certificates for 1912 is one less than in 1911, but the number admitted was five more than in 1911. For Upper Burma these figures are lacking, but the Court of the Judicial Commissioner dealt with 181 cases relating to advocates of all Courts in Upper Burma. Of these 127 cases were applications for admission and promotion, and 19 were for renewal of licenses.

New rules in place of those issued in 1908 relating to mortgage suits were framed and became law. New rules framed under the Burma Process Fees Act (1910) were issued. Cash for watching fees has been substituted for stamps, and Bailiffs and the Process serving establishments have been placed under the control of Divisional and District Judges. The rules under the Indian Companies Act (VI of 1882) came into force and the second edition of the Chief Court Rules and Orders Manual was completed and issued during the year.

Registration.

General.

63. On the formation of the new Insein and Hanthawaddy (Syriam) Districts, a Registrar's Office at Insein, and a Sub-registrar's Office at Tantabin were opened, while the Registration Sub-districts in the old Pegu and Hanthawaddy Districts were redistributed between the three Districts of Pegu, Insein, and Hanthawaddy (Syriam). The total number of Registration Offices is now 158. The powers hitherto vested in the Local Government to appoint, suspend, remove or dismiss Sub-registrars of Sub-districts were during the year delegated to the Financial Commissioner. Three non-official Joint Sub-registrars were newly appointed.

Deeds registered.

64. The total number of compulsory registrations affecting immoveable property and the aggregate value of the instruments registered again show a large increase compared with the figures of 1911, the increases being respectively 6,872 and Rs. 53,83,877 or 13 and 7·7 per cent. In instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards the increase in number and value is 3,889 and Rs. 96,79,600 respectively. It is reported that the high price of rice ruling in Lower Burma by raising the value of lands leads to numerous transactions in land while a bad harvest in the Arakan Division caused enforced sales. An increase in the Tavoy District is attributed to the expansion of the mining industry and a decrease in the Mergui District to the cessation of the rubber boom. An increase of 4 per cent. in the total transactions in the town of Rangoon and a rise in the average value of instruments registered from Rs. 8,343 in 1911 to Rs. 8,921 in 1912 lead to the conclusion that land values are slowly recovering from the slump that overtook them on the collapse of the land boom. The process of recovery will be helped by the disastrous experiences of the public in their investments in Joint Stock Companies during recent years. Instruments of mortgage

show an increase of 2,584 in number and Rs. 16,82,715 in value. The total of registrations in Book IV decreased by 242 in number and Rs. 2,93,762 in value. Lower Burma is responsible for the decreases. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

65. The total income received increased by over 13 per cent. The total expenditure increased by Rs. 9,892 but nearly half this amount arose from increased percentage payments made to registering officers and is a corollary of the increase in income. The ratio of the total expenditure to the total income of the Province derived from registration now stands at 50 per cent. Income and Expenditure.

Joint Stock Companies.

66. Company promoting during the year was still stagnant. Sixteen companies limited by shares representing a nominal capital of Rs. 42·05 lakhs were registered under the Indian Companies Act (VI of 1882), as against 24 companies with Rs. 92·18 lakhs of nominal capital and 13 companies with a nominal capital of Rs. 80·27 lakhs were wound up or otherwise disposed of as against 17 companies with a nominal capital of Rs. 103·33 lakhs in 1911-12; 125 companies were thus working at the close of the year, with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 1,024·73 lakhs as against 122 companies with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 1,057·64 lakhs in 1911-12. Of the companies that came into being during the year the most noteworthy is the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway Company, Limited, with a capital of Rs. 18·00 lakhs formed to construct and work a steam tramway in the Akyab District to serve the coolie traffic between Chittagong and the Arakan Division. Another company with a capital of one lakh of rupees was also formed in Akyab to deal in raw produce, while both the Myaungmya and Mandalay Districts boasted of one new company each—both milling concerns with nominal capitals of Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 30,000, respectively. The other companies belong to Rangoon and were formed for various purposes—the most important being banking and cattle insurance. Oil was unpopular during the year, only one company to prospect for it being floated with a nominal capital of Rs 40,000 while no new mining ventures at all were started. The public are being given time to forget past misfortunes. Of the 13 companies that were wound up, the Burma Rivers Transport Company, Limited, with a paid-up capital of Rs. 14·98 lakhs bought up by the Irrawaddy Flotilla Co., Ltd., accounts for about half the paid-up capital of all the companies wound up, some Rs. 30·45 lakhs. Forty-six companies increased their capital, the aggregate increases under capital issued nominal and paid-up being Rs. 139·57 lakhs and Rs. 135·34 lakhs, respectively. Seven companies reduced their capital, the decreases under the same two heads being Rs. ·14 lakh and Rs. 1·17 lakhs respectively. One new company limited by guarantee was registered during the year, raising the total number of such companies in the Province to eight.

Local Boards Administration.

67. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in Chapter V of this Report.

Municipal Administration.

68. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly one lakh of rupees to Rs. 41·61 lakhs, while the ordinary expenditure increased by over Rs. 2½ lakhs to Rs. 39·19 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population Rangoon Municipality.

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rose from Rs. 9-13-6 to Rs. 10-1-4. The systematic revision of assessments commenced in 1909-1910 was continued during the year, but no fresh taxes were imposed. The financial position of the Municipality is dealt with in Chapter VI.

The Committee devoted much attention during the year to the improvement of the roads in Rangoon. A separate Roads department was created, and operations on a large scale were carried out. The year was a disastrous one with regard to conflagrations, the damage done to property amounting to eleven lakhs of rupees. The Fire Brigade did not afford satisfaction, and as a result of a special enquiry held into its working, it was decided to reorganize the staff, and to appoint an officer to the independent charge of the brigade. The financial position of the lighting fund remained unsatisfactory, an opening debit balance of Rs. 80,000 increasing as a result of the year's working to Rs. 1,62,000. The extension of the electric lighting to the less central thoroughfares is an urgent need. A Sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of the street lighting of the town, and negotiations were subsequently entered into with the company, which at present carries out the street lighting in Rangoon under contract, with a view to improve the lighting and at the same time to reduce the cost by procuring the adoption of a different type of lamp. The matter is still under consideration. The problem of the water-supply again became insistent, a shortage at the beginning of the year seriously threatening the health of the people. Expert advice was obtained and the Committee decided to adopt the remedial measures recommended, though these will entail heavy expenditure. The milk supply of the town also engaged attention, a special Sub-committee being appointed to examine schemes for the improvement of the regulation of the supply but no final decision was arrived at. The question of the disposal of rubbish received attention and a new night soil depôt is being constructed in Kemmendine. A site for a new bazaar at Dalla was acquired and one for a bazaar in East Rangoon selected. The campaign against glanders was continued with vigour and the disease is being steadily stamped out. The reclamation of town lands progressed but slowly owing to lack of funds for new works. This work is financed from the Land Sale and Rent Fund which includes the sale proceeds of land, premia on the sale of leases, rents for leases of reclaimed land and the interest on cash balances and sinking fund investments, and the receipts at present are needed to meet the charges for the service of the loans already raised. Public health was on the whole better than in the previous year. The birth-rate fell slightly from 18·31 *per mille* to 18·25, but the death-rate also fell from 38·32 to 35·28. While cholera was the cause of 156 deaths as against 147, the death roll from small-pox fell from 700 to 188 and from plague from 1,522 to 817. The number of plague seizures, 866, was the second lowest reported since 1905. On the other hand, infantile mortality shows a further advance from 327·69 to 331·28 *per mille*, and it is proposed to appoint two Health Visitors to work among the Burmese community. The number of vaccination operations—both primary and re-vaccinations—decreased from 53,542 to 40,300.

Minor Municipalities.

69. The number of Municipalities, excluding Rangoon, was 45, remaining the same as in the previous year. The boundaries of four Municipalities were revised. The limits of the Syriam Municipality were extended by the inclusion of an area of 483 acres, while the areas of the Yandoon, Shwegyin and Bhamo Municipalities were curtailed by the exclusion of villages not sufficiently ripe as yet to profit by the benefits of Municipal institutions. The curtailment of the Yandoon Municipality was partly off-set by a few additions made to its area. The average incidence of taxation increased from Rs. 2-4-7 to Rs. 2-6-6, being highest at Moulmein, Rs. 4-8-1, and lowest at Bhamo, Re. 0-9-9. Assessments were revised at Syriam, Pyapôn, Ma-ubin and Minbu, but no fresh imposts were levied during the year. The financial position of the Municipalities is set out in Chapter V of this Report.

The year generally speaking was a healthy one though plague, cholera, small-pox and malaria visited several towns. Toungoo, Bassein, Prome and Pyapôn suffered most from plague, all returning a death roll of over 100 from

this cause alone; Mandalay on the other hand was practically free from it during the year. Cholera and small-pox ravaged more or less severely Mandalay, Bassein, Paungdè and Gyobingauk, the death rate from small-pox in Mandalay reaching the high figure of 457. A rise of 20 per cent. in the death rate of Tavoy is attributed to malaria, and from the same cause the death rate of Salin increased by 39 per cent. The extension of irrigation works in the country round Salin explains this prevalence of malaria, and is part of the same phenomenon as the heavy mortality in the Môn canal area of the Minbu District. The question of urban sanitation has received close attention during the year and much is expected of the inauguration of a Provincial Sanitary Service.

The grants to be spent on urban sanitation received from the Government of India allowed of many works being put in hand and of many improvements being effected. From the balance of the special non-recurring grant of Rs. 7 lakhs made in 1911 Mandalay received some Rs. 2 lakhs in connexion with the drainage scheme. From the non-recurring grant of Rs. 4 lakhs sanctioned in 1912 Toungoo received Rs. 50,000 towards the cost of the new bazaar. From the Rs. 3 lakhs recurring grant of 1912-13 Rs. 28,800 were allotted to Bhamo for alterations in the bazaar. Grants of Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 17,000 were made to Bassein and Myingyan respectively towards the erection of new bazaars, and to Prome Rs. 21,380 were allotted for a new meat market. Water-supply schemes were funded at Bassein (Rs. 25,000), Kyaiklat (Rs. 10,000), Minbu (Rs. 6,000) and Thônzè (Rs. 7,021), while Rs. 1,500 were given to Mergui for the construction of tube-wells. Toungoo received Rs. 25,000 towards the cost of its drainage scheme and Syriam Rs. 25,189 to meet expenditure on the laying out of the Municipal area. Reclamation work was taken in hand at Kyauksè and Pyinmana, to which places sums of Rs. 4,000 and Rs. 2,000 respectively were allotted. Altogether a sum of Rs. 5·01 lakhs was expended from the total of the grants during the year, a balance of Rs. 7·04 lakhs being left available for future use. Moreover towards the close of the year the Government of India sanctioned another special non-recurring grant of Rs. 10½ lakhs and a further recurring grant of Rs. 3 lakhs for expenditure on urban sanitary improvements. Owing to the late receipt of the sanction, no distributions were made.

Progress was made with other works and schemes. Work was commenced on the Kyaiklat water-supply scheme, the estimated cost being Rs. 71,000, more than half of which has been borne by Government. The water-supply scheme of Minbu was completed during the year, but the pumping apparatus proved unsatisfactory. An estimate for improving the supply is under consideration. The Pegu water-supply scheme, towards which Government has promised a grant of Rs. 3 lakhs, was still under consideration, as was also the scheme for improving the water-supply at Prome. Work on the Bassein water-supply was suspended pending investigations into leakages which were found in the reservoir. The Mônywa water-supply scheme was sanctioned and is being carried out with substantial assistance from Government. It is hoped that when the scheme is completed it will protect the town from the attacks of cholera to which it has frequently been exposed in the past. At Thayetmyo the reservoirs were completed and it is hoped that the entire scheme will be completed shortly. No large expenditure was incurred in connection with drainage and reclamation works except at Syriam, Moulmein and Mandalay where sums amounting to Rs. 18,135, Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 1,99,262 respectively were spent. The drainage scheme of Moulmein was stopped pending the settlement of the question of the reclamation for which the Committee did not feel there was justification for raising a loan. A drainage scheme for the whole town of Insein is being drawn up, while at Paungdè the construction of a system of masonry drains in the centre of the town was commenced. At Kyaiklat the reclamation of the town with sand dredged from the river was begun and similar work will be carried out at Pyapôn and Wakèma. At Myaungmya a surface drainage scheme for the town will shortly be put in hand. At Tavoy a scheme for the reclamation of low-lying flooded land in the quarters along the foreshore was under consideration, while at Toungoo plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 1,48,907 for the town drainage

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were sanctioned. Masonry drains costing over Rs. 4,000 were constructed in certain quarters at Myingyan, and at Kyauksè over Rs. 3,000 was expended on draining and reclaiming insanitary hollows in the town. Several schemes for building new or improving old hospitals are in hand. The construction of the King Edward Memorial Maternity Ward at Mandalay, which was started in the previous year with the proceeds of public subscriptions, was completed during the year, and new hospital buildings were also under construction at Pyapôn and Yamèthin.

Improvements to bazaars were carried out at Thayetmyo, Myaungmya and Pyinmana and new bazaars were constructed at Syriam and Wakèma. The expenditure on roads rose considerably, but the increase is accounted for by sums amounting to Rs. 1·23 lakhs expended in Mandalay on repairs to the roads. At Henzada the expenditure on roads doubled itself, and at Moulmein eleven miles of road were remetalled and eight repaired. At Pegu, where a new feeder road was constructed and the Railway over-bridge completed, the expenditure on roads doubled itself.

Expenditure on public instruction increased, but no more Municipal schools were taken over by Government. Vaccination and registration of vital statistics are dealt with in Chapter VI of this Report. The state of the accounts of the Municipalities as disclosed at the audits was generally satisfactory. The only case of defalcation occurred at Myanaung.

The number of notified areas proper was increased by two, Thôngwa being notified under the Municipal Act from the 1st October 1912. Shwedaung, which to all intents and purposes had been administered as a notified area since its Committee and Town Fund were established by executive orders in 1882, was formally declared to be a notified area under the Municipal Act, with effect from the 1st October 1912. Notified areas now number 18. Their total receipts rose from Rs. 5,83,653 to Rs. 6,02,131 and their total expenditure from Rs. 5,16,820 to Rs. 5,23,887. Grants were made to Nyaunglebin and Kawkareik for sanitary purposes. At Maymyo, where the incidence of taxation has risen to Rs. 7-7-6, funds were insufficient to carry out necessary sanitary improvements.

Military.

Strength of the garrison.

70. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of Burma on the 31st March 1913 was 9,742 officers and men, of whom 3,573 were Europeans, as against 9,623 officers and men, of whom 3,546 were Europeans at the end of the preceding year. In the native troops 108 British Officers were associated with 6,169 men of other ranks as against 116 and 6,077 in the year 1911-12. Thirty-four British officers employed on the staff are not included in the above figures.

Military works.

71. The amount expended on Military works increased from Rs. 5·05 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. 5·29 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 35,487 was expended on quarters for officers in Rangoon. Good progress was made in the construction of quarters for the General Officer Commanding, Rangoon Brigade. Rupees 24,207 were spent in providing pucca floors and other improvements for three barracks for married men in the British Infantry Lines. Other works included improvements to barracks at Bhamo, quarters for the Volunteer Sergeant-Instructor at Mergui, and the reclamation of a portion of the land in Rangoon Town which is occupied by the Supply and Transport Godowns.

Military (Volunteering).

72. The six Volunteer Corps in Burma remained unchanged during the year. Their total strength on the 31st March 1913 was 3,526 adults, 802 cadets and 174 reservists, as compared with 3,374, 622 and 170 respectively at the end of

the preceding year. The number of efficients, excluding reservists, was 4,107 as against 3,669; and the capitation grant earned was Rs. 1·56 lakhs as against a revised figure of Rs. 1·33 lakhs. All figures relating to the 40 members of the South Andaman Volunteer Rifles, which for administrative purposes are attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, are excluded from these figures. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

The "D" Company of the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles was converted into a mounted company, and its headquarters were removed from Minbu to Yenangyaung. The establishment of the Electrical Engineer Company of the Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers was increased during the year by one Military Mechanist Staff Sergeant Engine Driver, one Military Mechanist Staff Sergeant Electrician and two Buglers.

Sanction to an increase of three medical officers for the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps was applied for during the year and was received after the close of the year. A change in procedure was introduced. It was decided that, in questions connected with the appointments, promotions, transfers, and resignations, of officers of the Indian Volunteer Force below the rank of Field Officer, General Officers Commanding Brigades should communicate with the Local Government direct instead of through the Divisional Commanders.

Marine.

73. A sum of Rs. 23,082 was spent on special plant required for carrying out the proposed break-water and quay, and other improvements to landings, etc., at Alguada Reef Light-house, on which work was in progress. Most of the materials required for rectifying the damaged portion of the chasm wall were collected. The whole work is estimated to cost Rs. 1,78,527. Certain improvements to the roofs of the buildings at Table Island were practically finished. The incandescent lamps installed at Eastern Grove, Alguada Reef, and Green, Table, Beacon, Oyster and Savage Islands worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The China Bakir Light-house is the only light-house still using the cocoanut oil burner. The light-ships use the heavy mineral oil burner. The unattended Wigham's patent light was exhibited at the west end of Zallataung Island from the 1st October 1912 to the 31st May 1913 and worked satisfactorily. The R.I.M.S. "Mayo" was the station vessel during the year of report. She visited the light-houses and light-ships and was also employed in carrying out certain other miscellaneous duties. No cases of beri-beri were reported, and the health of the light-keepers is reported to have been generally good throughout the year. The light-ships "Danidaw", "Kalagauk" and "Kemmendine", which are stationed at the Baragua Flats, Krishna Shoal and the Spit, respectively, were brought into Rangoon for their annual overhaul. The relief light-ship "Martaban" took their places alternately. The total expenditure on light-houses and light-ships rose slightly from Rs. 1,77,711 to Rs. 1,78,850. The cost of repairs to the light-ships fell from Rs. 15,173 to Rs. 3,168, while the repairs to the light-houses by the Public Works Department increased from Rs. 22,529 to Rs. 42,387. Charges on account of establishment, provisions, oil, stores and contingencies decreased again from Rs. 1,40,009 to Rs. 1,33,295. The receipts from Burma Coast-light dues amounted to Rs. 4,38,807 as compared with Rs. 4,16,210 in 1911-12, an increase of Rs. 22,597 notwithstanding the fact that the rate at which the dues are levied was provisionally lowered for a period of three years with effect from the 1st May 1911. Light-houses and light-ships.

74. The receipts of the Rangoon Port Trust on revenue account for the year 1912-13 were Rs. 43·93 lakhs as against Rs. 36·63 lakhs in 1911-12, and the expenditure (including a sum of Rs. 2·75 lakhs allocated to the various reserve funds) amounted to Rs. 38·71 lakhs as against Rs. 37·07 lakhs. The final surplus was Rs. 5·23 lakhs as against a deficit of Rs. 43,844 in the previous year. This is attributed partly to increased trade and partly to the enhancement of the river due which, raised from four to six annas, produced an increase of Rs. 3·94 lakhs. The Trust raised during the year a loan of Rs. 9 lakhs bearing interest at 4 per Port Administration, Rangoon.

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cent. and the total capital debt by way of loans on the 31st March 1913 stood at Rs. 263·62 lakhs, against which there was on the same date provision in the shape of a sinking fund amounting to Rs. 24·91 lakhs. In addition to this the reserve funds in the Fire and Marine Insurance, Revenue Reserve, and Depreciation Funds amounted to Rs. 10·29 lakhs. Charges for the service of the debt amounted during the year to Rs. 15·99 lakhs. This sum represents approximately 36·39 per cent. of the receipts and 44·46 per cent. of the expenditure on revenue account. The following facts illustrate the growth of the port during the last 13 years. Since 1899-1900 the amount of net registered tonnage of shipping entering the port has approximately doubled itself; the value of the trade has risen approximately by 123 per cent. The ordinary port revenue from rates, rents and dues has risen by 272 per cent. The value of "the block at approximate cost" is set down at Rs. 327·55 lakhs as against Rs. 75 lakhs and the capital debt has increased from Rs. 4½ lakhs to Rs. 263½ lakhs. To turn to the details of the revenue account: the gross receipts of the Traffic Department amounted to Rs. 22·76 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 8·02 lakhs as against receipts of Rs. 20·66 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 8·35 lakhs in the previous year. The increase of a little over 10 per cent. in the receipts was due to activity of trade. The total of the sea-borne imports of merchandise into Rangoon increased by 172,695 tons to 1,225,422 tons and the total of the exports by 128,443 tons to 2,666,301 tons. Of the imports the Trust handled 56·7 per cent. and of the exports 11·7 per cent. The figures were 55·3 per cent. and 9·9 per cent. respectively in 1911-12. Landing fees, sea-going river side fees, demurrage and warehouse rents showed increases, and inland wharfage, landing and shipping fees and godown rents decreases. The decrease in inland fees is due to a reduction in the charges on inland vessels, and in godown rents to a destructive fire in November 1912 in which nine godowns were burnt to the ground. The receipts and expenditure of the Port Department were Rs. 6·15 lakhs and Rs. 5·13 lakhs respectively as against Rs. 5·72 lakhs and Rs. 5·36 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The proceeds of the river due increased from Rs. 9·15 lakhs to Rs. 13·09 lakhs, the rate being raised from 4 to 6 annas with effect from the 6th July 1912.

The total expenditure charged to capital account up to the 31st March 1913 amounted to Rs. 297·86 lakhs. This has been met from the proceeds of loans and from a contribution of Rs. 50 lakhs granted by Government towards the cost of the River Training Scheme. Of this total expenditure Rs. 19·61 lakhs were added during the year of report. Rupees 85,386 was expended on wharves, Rs. 13,904 on pontoons, jetties, godowns, etc., and river conservancy works accounted for Rs. 18·90 lakhs. No new work of any magnitude was undertaken, but work was active on the river training scheme. The expenditure on this work during the year was Rs. 19·39 lakhs, and the total expenditure on the work up to the 31st March 1913 was Rs. 111·36 lakhs against a sanctioned estimate of Rs. 150,00,183. The mattress-work foundation of the wall had been completed in the preceding year and during the year of report stone was brought in and deposited on the wall or apron. From Kalagauk 5,759,300 cubic feet of stone were brought in by steamer; from Zingyaik, where a new quarry was acquired during the year, 245,296 cubic feet; and contractors supplied a further 1,985,770 cubic feet of stone from other inland quarries.

The Commissioners of the Trust realize the importance of maintaining a deep water channel at the entrance of the harbour. They considered during the year the question of maintaining a deep water channel across the Hastings Shoal at the entrance of the harbour and on the reports of their experts, decided to order a 1,200 ton dredger to cost £58,000, utilizing her on the Monkey Point Channel, while a complete project was being drawn up. They also made a provision of Rs. 30,000 for additional surveys. To provide the necessary funds for this expenditure, it was resolved to submit proposals to Government for the increase of port dues from 3 annas to 4 annas per registered ton of shipping. The proposals have since been approved.

Pilot service, Rangoon.

75. The Pilot Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 88,599, receipts amounted to Rs. 3,39,298 and expenditure to Rs. 3,45,979, leaving a closing balance of

Rs. 81,918. The gross pilotage receipts rose from Rs. 3,09,008 to Rs. 3,27,622 and the disbursements to pilots also increased from Rs. 1,83,802 to Rs. 2,32,746. A sum of Rs. 21,030 was added to the Pilots' Vessels' Depreciation Fund, which stood at Rs. 1, 42,823 on the 31st March 1913. The pilot service was well maintained. Five vessels against four in the previous year were detained at the Pilot Brig for short periods owing to lack of a pilot. At the close of the year the pilots submitted a memorial to the Local Government which along with other matters in connection with the pilot service is being made the subject of a special enquiry at the hands of a Committee appointed by the Local Government. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

76. Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust, there are six ports in Burma for which separate Port Funds are maintained, namely, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Moulmein, Mergui and Tavoy. The receipts from these funds rose again from Rs. 4,23,127 to Rs. 4,35,953, while the expenditure continued to decline from Rs. 4,30,804 to Rs. 4,15,323. The year of report opened with a balance of Rs. 2,55,609 and closed with a balance of Rs. 2,76,239. The expenditure of the Tavoy Port Fund exceeded the income by Rs. 1,251, the excess being met from the opening balance. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year. **Minor ports.**

Outside Rangoon, there are Pilot Funds at Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. They receive the fees for pilotage and disburse the earnings of the pilots, charges for the maintenance of pilot vessels and some other expenses. The funds opened with a total balance of Rs. 29,552 and closed with a balance of Rs. 24,155. Receipts increased from Rs. 1,05,730 to Rs. 1,22,434 and expenditure from Rs. 99,169 to Rs. 1,27,831. The expenditure of the Akyab and Bassein Pilot Funds exceeded their income by Rs. 2,224 and Rs. 6,513, respectively, the excess in each case being met from the opening balances. At the close of the year all the funds were solvent. Port Officers appointed by Government and assisted by Advisory Boards continued to manage the ports of Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. The administration of the ports of Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioner. These three ports have no Pilot Funds.

77. Five hundred and twenty-six vessels of all kinds entered ports in Burma from foreign countries in 1912-13, as against 504 in the preceding year. The aggregate tonnage rose again from 1,199,724 to 1,343,854 tons. The number of steam-vessels increased from 485 to 505 and their total tonnage from 1,197,027 to 1,340,861. The number of sailing ships and their total tonnage also increased from 19 and 2,697 tons to 21 and 2,993 tons respectively. Three hundred and fifty-three steamers, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,026,700, entered Rangoon from foreign ports, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 355 and 957,475 respectively; only one sailing ship visited Rangoon against the same number in 1911-12. **Commercial Marine: shipping.**

The number of steamers and sailing ships engaged in the coasting trade, which entered ports in the Province, rose from 3,585 to 3,818, of which 2,239 were steamers. The total tonnage increased from 2,580,715 to 2,821,493; the tonnage of steam-vessels was 2,766,666 against 2,527,540 and that of sailing ships 54,827 as compared with 53,175. One thousand and ninety-six or slightly less than one-half of the total number of steamers came to Rangoon, while only 119 sailing ships entered that port as against 121 in the preceding year. Rangoon accounted for 1,833,183 tons out of the total coasting tonnage of 2,821,493, the figures for 1911-12 being 1,688,705 and 2,580,715 tons respectively.

The average size of steam-vessels visiting Rangoon increased. The number of such vessels of above 5,000 gross registered tonnage continued to rise from 302 to 388, and 8 steamers of 29 feet and one of 30 feet draught left the port, against 5 and *nil* in the previous year.

Of the 526 steam-vessels and sailing ships that entered ports in Burma from foreign countries, 335 or 63·69 per cent. were British and 45 British Indian. The percentage of British vessels in the preceding year was 70·04. There was a decline in the number and tonnage of British shipping in the foreign trade at Rangoon, due to the diversion of the exports of rice from European to Eastern destinations. One hundred and forty-one vessels sailed under foreign flags as

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against 108 in 1911-12. The number of Japanese vessels exactly doubled itself, advancing from 32 to 64. This is partly due to the establishment by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha late in the previous year of a regular line of Japanese steamers plying between Far Eastern ports and Calcutta *vid* Rangoon and partly to the large number of Japanese "tramps" which came to carry the enormous exports of Burma rice to Japan. Twenty-six Austrian and twelve Russian vessels entered ports in Burma against 22 and 6 in the previous year. The number of German, Dutch, Norwegian and Swedish vessels fell from 32, 12, 3 and 1 to 26, 11, 1 and *nil* respectively in the year of report. One American vessel came to Rangoon against none in 1911-12.

With regard to vessels in the coasting trade the three principal features of the year of report were, the renewal of the B. I. S. N. Co's. fleet, new steamers taking the place of those which had become obsolete; the improvement of communications between Rangoon and ports on the Arakan and Tenasserim coasts; and the entry of Japanese vessels into the Rangoon-Calcutta trade, leading to a keen competition with the already existing services. Of the 3,183 vessels engaged in the coasting trade that entered ports in Burma with cargoes 1,841 were British, 161 British Indian, 75 foreign and 1,106 native sailing craft, the figures under each head showing an increase over those of the previous year.

Commercial Marine: wrecks and casualties.

78. During the year of report there were 31 casualties to shipping within the jurisdiction of the Port Commissioners of Rangoon against 23 in the preceding year. Four occurred to vessels in charge of licensed pilots and special pilots, twenty to vessels in charge of assistant harbour masters, and seven to vessels in charge of masters and serangs. None of the casualties were serious and no material damage was done in any case. In seven cases departmental enquiries were held; one assistant harbour master was found guilty of an error of judgment and one serang was reduced to lascar for six months. The record is considered a satisfactory one for the year. The principal collision was between the B. I. S. N. Co's. S.S. "Angora" and Messrs. Lim Soo Hean & Co's. S.S. "Seang Bee." They collided near the Pilot Brig at the mouth of the Rangoon River on the morning of the 9th April 1912, both vessels sustaining damage. A Special Court of Enquiry was held under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1883, to investigate the cause of the collision. The Court found that the collision was due to an error of judgment on the part of the Master of the "Angora", but that it was not of sufficient importance to render him liable to any suspension of certificate. The Master of the "Seang Bee" was exonerated from all blame. The Court also placed on record its regret that the entries in the Bridge Book and the movement register of the "Angora" showed traces of alteration, and its opinion that the procedure on the "Seang Bee" of keeping note of orders, etc., on the bridge on a slate was highly unsatisfactory.

There were two casualties at Moulmein. In the first case a Special Court of Enquiry was held under the British Burma Pilots Act, 1883, to investigate the cause of the grounding of the A. S. N. Co's. S.S. "Shahjehan" in the Moulmein River on the 5th February 1913 whilst in charge of a 1st grade pilot. The Court found that the pilot was not to blame but as the Commissioner of the Tenasserim Division and the Principal Port Officer, Burma, were of the opinion that the pilot had navigated the vessel carelessly, the Local Government were unable to accept the finding of the Court. The pilot was accordingly censured and warned to be more careful in future. In the second case the S.S. "Hollywell" fouled a buoy in the Moulmein River on the 25th February 1913 whilst in charge of a 1st grade pilot. A Special Court of Enquiry held under the British Burma Pilots Act, 1883, to investigate the cause of the fouling of the buoy, found that the pilot was in no way to blame for the accident.

Government steamers and launches.

79. The two R. I. M. vessels "Sladen" and "Bhamo" carried by river over eight thousand troops and followers besides ladies, women and children, convicts, transport animals, ammunition, 6,490 tons of stores and Rs. 76 lakhs of specie. Their total earnings fell from Rs. 2,04,827 to Rs. 1,70,710, each vessel showing a decrease, due to their being taken off the monthly

Rangoon-Mandalay service for three months on account of Military manœuvres at Bhamo. Two new steam-launches, 1 steam-barge, 3 dredgers and 1 motor-launch were added to the Government flotilla; 1 steam-launch was broken up and 1 water-boat sold. Consequently the year 1912-13 closed with 137 vessels, consisting of 85 steam-launches, 12 house-boats, 11 flats, 6 barges, 5 dredgers, 4 light-ships, 3 motor-launches, 3 steam-barges, 2 buoy vessels, 2 mooring boats, 1 steam-cutter, 1 rock-smashing boat, 1 water-boat and 1 boat for the conveyance of transport animals. The total earnings of Government vessels during the year of report amounted to Rs. 5,35,645 as against Rs. 5,38,911 in the preceding year, a slight decrease of Rs. 3,266. The earnings of the vessels employed in Lower Burma showed a further increase of Rs. 13,571, while those of the Upper Burma vessels again fell by Rs. 16,837, owing to a large number of vessels being employed on District and River Conservancy duties and also to launches being placed at the disposal of officials for touring purposes. Fourteen steam-launches in Lower Burma and eleven in Upper Burma earned more than the cost of their up-keep. The Lower Burma steam-launch "Despatch" and the steam-barge "Tara" showed profits of Rs 29,167 and Rs. 10,706 respectively; the earnings of the paddle-steamer "Custodian" declined from Rs. 47,438 to Rs. 26,796 showing a profit of Rs. 8,496 only against Rs. 25,037 in 1911-12. Of the Upper Burma vessels the "Kalewa" showed the highest profit, *viz.*, Rs. 7,242. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Government flotilla, including 4 per cent. on their estimated present value, fell from Rs. 8,38,601 to Rs. 8,21,496. The vessels throughout the Province were kept in a state of efficiency. The fuelling arrangements which are carried out by the Forest Department continued to give satisfaction. The outturn of work during the year of report at the Marine Workshop, Mandalay, amounted to Rs. 1,07,628 against Rs. 1,20,455 in 1911-12. Less work was done for the Marine and Public Works Departments. The workshop erected in the previous year proved to be of use and the old workshop was improved. Towards the close of the year 1911-12 the Local Government purchased the workshop with all the machinery, buildings, etc., belonging to the Burma Engineering and Trading Company, Limited, at Dawbong, Rangoon, for Rs. 1,12,500. The workshop occupies a little over eight acres of land, and will be utilized to carry out all works in connection with repairs to Government launches, machinery, etc. Work was started about the middle of April 1912 under the supervision of a Foreman Engineer and a Foreman Boiler-maker. The total expenditure for the year of report was Rs. 1,06,594, the principal item being repairs to Government vessels costing Rs. 38,898, while the permanent establishment and temporary labour and overtime charges came to Rs. 35,746. It is expected that the establishment of this workshop will result in the Marine Department effecting great savings on the cost of repairs to steam-launches, as well as in other branches of work, but the results of one year's working are insufficient to afford a firm basis for a conclusion on this point.

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Marine works and surveys.

80. Complete and entirely new surveys of the bed of the Rangoon River from Kemmendine to North D'Silva Point, and also from Elephant Point to the Fairway buoy were taken in hand and completed during the year. A general chart of the Rangoon River and its approaches was also completed. Extensive dredging operations during the past few years have shown that it is improbable that a permanent deep water channel at the entrance to the Rangoon harbour across the Hastings Shoal can be maintained without constant dredging, especially in the dry weather months. It was decided by the Port Commissioners to obtain a hopper dredger of 1,200 tons capacity and to utilise her in deepening the Monkey Point channel. Provision was also made for additional surveys. The shore light stations were maintained in good order. It was found necessary to move the Deserters' Creek light-station and light-posts to a new site about 600 feet further inland owing to the erosion of the river bank. A third light-post and a large light standard with a fifth order light were erected.

The construction of the wharves at Mawlamyaingyun and Shwelaung begun in the previous year was completed at a cost of Rs. 6,567 and Rs. 9,085

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respectively. Additions and alterations to the steamer wharf at Akyab were in progress. The work at the Alguada Reef Light-house has already been mentioned.

The R. I. M. S. "Investigator" commenced the survey on the scale of $\frac{1}{4}$" to one sea mile of the outside portion left over from the season of 1911-12, latitude 12°50′N. to 13°30′N. and longitude 97°40′E. to 98°05′E.; this takes in the area required on the projected new Admiralty sheets. On completion she continued south, working out the Mergui Archipelago on a scale of one inch to one mile, as far as 97°25′E., the western limit of the new Admiralty sheets.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Occupied and cultivated areas.

81. The area taken up in the year for agricultural, industrial and residential purposes exceeded 250,000 acres, and the occupied area of the Province is now 17,682,362 acres. In Thayetmyo the increase was as much as 34,393 acres, in Thatôn it amounted to 22,082 acres, and in ten other Districts it exceeded 10,000 acres. The total area left fallow fell 9 per cent. to. 3,825,447 acres; the area on which crops matured increased by 1,132,419 acres to 13,231,473 acres, while the area in which they were destroyed fell as much as 49 per cent. from 1,064,605 to 560,443 acres. This is the lowest figure for the area on which crops were destroyed recorded for the past ten years. Ample rain, the abnormally high prices for paddy that ruled during the year and the absence of floods explain the excellence of these figures. The total area brought under cultivation, inclusive of areas which failed, amounted to 14,295,499. This is 674,062 acres more than in 1911-12. The number of acres, lying almost entirely within the dry zone, which were cropped more than once was 438,584. In Lower Burma in all the Districts with three exceptions there was a large increase in the area put under crop and a large drop in the area left fallow. The exceptions were Insein, Hanthawaddy and Ma-ubin where floods had been so constant in the past five years that cultivators were afraid to break fresh ground. The three Districts however shared in the general prosperity. The largest increase in the area on which crops matured was in Insein, the next largest in Ma-ubin, while in Hanthawaddy over 20,000 acres more than in 1911-12 escaped destruction. Toungoo, Thatôn and Amherst benefited by the absence of the usual floods on the Sittaing, Salween, Gyaing, Ataran and Haungtharaw rivers. In Upper Burma except in Magwe the good early rains and the high level of prices brought about large extensions as well as cultivation of much land previously left

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fallow. There was a large rise in Sagaing of 70,000 acres in the area on which crops matured, and of over 25,000 acres in four other Districts. The large expansion in the occupied area of the Thayetmyo District followed on a large increase in the preceding year and was due to the recultivation of lands formerly worked but abandoned during years of a poor rainfall. A decrease of 33,598 acres of the occupied area in the Meiktila District is nominal only and resulted from the abandonment of all statistical work in certain areas in which a fixed assessment has been introduced. In Magwe there was a decrease of 18,127 acres in the area cultivated, but there the hill-stream irrigation system in the Taungdwingyi paddy plain failed. In Shwebo although irrigation was successful, the rains outside the canal tract to the east were light and uneven, and the total area left fallow and the total area on which crops failed remained much the same as in 1911-12.

Rice was grown on 10,218,813 acres or 394,655 acres more than in 1911-12. The area under red millet rose by 20,000 acres to 492,097. There were large increases in Magwe and Yamèthin, but the Sagaing, Lower Chindwin and Myingyan Districts showed decreases, and in Meiktila there was only a small rise of 1,000 acres. It is surmised that the failure of this crop to expand in these Districts, aided as it was by a favourable rainfall, was due to the extending ravages of the *pwinbyu* (Striga lutea) weed. The areas under early sesamum and groundnut rose by 114,024 and 57,216 acres to 800,097 and 199,532 acres respectively. This coincident expansion is remarkable, as generally the gain of the one is the loss of the other. In the year of report the early rains were so exceptionally favourable that large additional areas were placed under both crops. The area under cotton was 235,690 acres, thus showing an increase of 45,521 acres. In the Thayetmyo, Myingyan and Sagaing Districts, the increase exceeded 10,000 acres, while in Amherst, where experiments with different varieties of cotton are being conducted in the Ataran valley by private enterprise, the increase was 2,000 acres. Amongst pulses the area under white beans increased by 20,000 acres to 100,000 acres, but the area under red beans declined by 10,000 acres. The market in this crop has been injured by the allegation that the beans contain prussic acid. The area under rubber increased by 11,257 acres, about half of the growth being in the Mergui District. The total area under rubber in the Province is now 44,029 acres. The area under wheat fell slightly, that under tobacco was more or less stationary.

Area irrigated.

82. The gross irrigated area amounted to 1,091,646 acres, or 135,973 acres more than in 1911-12. To this increase Government canals contributed 60,000 acres, Government tanks 44,000 and private works 27,000. Extensions and remodelling of distributaries on the Shwebo and Môn canals and the Kyauksè system, and repairs to the bunds of the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank rendered a fuller use of the available water-supply possible. The area irrigated by private canals declined by 23,000 acres in the Magwe District; the rain along the Yomas was light and the level of the streams which traverse the Taungdwingyi paddy plain fell far below normal. Against this has to be offset a rise of 20,000 acres in the area watered by private tanks in the Meiktila District, where the rainfall was thirteen inches above normal, while minor miscellaneous works, especially in the Toungoo, Yamèthin and Lower Chindwin Districts irrigated some 30,000 acres more than in 1911-12.

Of the irrigated area 94 per cent. was under rice. Sesamum and fodder crops in the Kyauksè District account for the balance. The irrigated areas twice cropped aggregated 35,000 acres.

The Agricultural Department: General.

83. The progress of the Agricultural Department continued to be encouraging. The superior and subordinate scientific staff remained unchanged throughout the year but proposals have been made for a revision of the pay of the Assistants of the department and for a general increase in the staff to meet the growing needs of the department and for the establishment of an experimental station of 40 acres in the dry zone for the study of cotton and other staple crops. The only agricultural education undertaken during the year was the training of the district

agriculturists at Mandalay. Some outside students and certain of the Mandalay farm staff also attended the lectures. The Mandalay station is reported to be visited by agriculturists in increasing numbers, but pending the development of a staff of district agriculturists, co-operative societies are proving the best medium for the dissemination of the department's teaching and advice. A small exhibition of implements was held at Nyaunglebin on the occasion of the conference of the American Baptist Karen Mission. One was also held at the Myittha pagoda festival in Kyauksè, and aroused much interest. The agricultural and live stock show was held as usual at Bhamo, when the produce classes again contained good exhibits. No progress was made with the buildings at Hmawbi during the year but the work has now been put in hand. At Mandalay the installation of the water-supply has commenced. An additional grant of Rs. 75,000 was received from the Government of India during the year in addition to the grant of a lakh of rupees already made.

Agricultural experiment and research.

84. The experimental work at the Mandalay station was considerably extended during the year particularly in the direction of the line breeding of paddy and of seed selection and seed multiplication. A plot of riverine land situated three miles from Mandalay was taken up for the purpose of experimenting with island crops. Trials were made with a sample of Madagascar beans supplied by the Imperial Institute. It is hoped that the trials will be successful as the varieties of beans now grown in Burma need improvement. At the Hmawbi station selection experiments were carried out with paddy, and are expected to yield good results and provide information which hitherto has not been available in the Province. A small experimental station of 10 acres was opened at Pwinbyu in the centre of the area irrigated from the Môn canals, the main object being to introduce sugarcane cultivation and incidentally to improve the paddy of the locality. At Tatkôn in the Yamèthin District a small plot of land was taken up and observations were made for the purpose of the classification of the principal varieties of sesamum grown in the Province; seed was taken to maintain the cultures on land near Mandalay. Experiments with Cambodia cotton seed obtained from Madras were also conducted there. The results were satisfactory and the trials are being extended in the current year through the agency of the co-operative credit societies. The question of experimental gardens was considered during the year and it was decided to close at once the gardens at Sinlumkaba in the Bhamo District and at Tiddim in the Chin Hills, and to offer the garden at Taunggyi in the Southern Shan States for sale. The disappearance of these gardens is the natural sequence of the establishment of experimental stations in the country under expert control. The results of the first year's working of the Myitkyina garden as a potato seed production station under the revised scheme were very satisfactory. The average outturn of potatoes was 671 viss per acre, and it is proposed to begin the distribution of seed next year. The results of the wheat cultivation were also good. The garden at Falam is to be retained as a central agricultural station from which seed may be obtained in case of necessity and where new experiments may be tried. The cultivation of wheat in the Chin Hills was suspended during 1912-13, as the supply outran the demand from the Military Police, who are the only consumers. Efforts were made to introduce wheat in the Upper Chindwin and Bhamo Districts but the results were not satisfactory. In Sagaing wheat reported to be of excellent quality was supplied by some co-operative societies to the Supply and Transport Department. Further attention is to be given to this crop, especially in the Myitkyina and Sagaing Districts. Havana and Virginia tobacco seed was distributed to district officers for experimental cultivation, by cultivators, but with little or no results. Castor cultivation attracted attention and the possibilities of sugarcane were considered. Groundnut seed was supplied to several co-operative societies in the north of the Pyinmana Subdivision and the establishment of this crop in the Yamèthin District is looked forward to. *Tadaungbo* paddy was supplied to Sandoway and Amherst. In the former the results of the experiment were partially successful.

The work of the chemical branch of the department increased. The Agricultural Chemist carried out 250 analyses against 175 in the previous year,

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Last year's work on rice cultivation was continued and an examination of the typical rice soils employed in the plot and field experiments was carried out. In the botanical section the survey of the peas and beans of the Province was completed during the year, and a catalogue of the rice plant varieties in Upper Burma was under preparation. A list of the commoner edible fungi was prepared and additions were made to the herbarium. In the entomological section several investigations and experiments were conducted, while under mycology the paddy blight known as '*gwabo*' was again the subject of study. The Imperial Mycologist visited the Province to study the question in the course of the year, and the results of his enquiries are to be published as a bulletin of the Agricultural Research Institute, Pusa. Several cultivators' leaflets, two bulletins and other miscellaneous publications were issued by the department during the year.

Veterinary Department Staff and Veterinary Schools.

85. The staff of the Veterinary Department at the end of the year consisted of 3 Superintendents, 11 Veterinary Inspectors and 120 Veterinary Assistants. There are two veterinary schools, one at Insein and one at Taunggyi. At the close of the year there were 31 pupils at the Insein school and 6 at the Taunggyi school as against 38 and 9 respectively at the end of the previous year. The educational record of the former school during the year was disappointing. Eight pupils were removed while 6 resigned and only 17 applications for admission were received to fill 15 notified vacancies. The educational qualification of the candidates showed no signs of improvement. No progress was made with the proposed better equipment of the school, but funds have been allotted and the work will be shortly taken in hand. There was an increase in the number of animals brought for treatment to the dispensary attached to the school. The average daily attendance was 19·7 as against 15·12 in the previous year. The work in the laboratory also increased, 2,119 specimens being sent in from the Districts for examination. The total expenditure on the department during the year rose slightly to Rs. 2·56 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·10 lakhs were met by Imperial and Local Funds.

Cattle disease.

86. The total number of deaths of cattle from contagious diseases during the year fell from 34,215 to 24,876. In Lower Burma deaths increased from 12,148 to 17,149 but this increase of 5,000 is more than accounted for by the returns of two Districts, Mergui and Thatôn, where rinderpest carried off 9,000 head of cattle. In Upper Burma the number of deaths fell from 22,067 to 7,527, thus showing a decrease of no less than 14,540 or 66 per cent. The decrease is appreciable in every kind of contagious disease, but particularly in the case of anthrax, deaths from which only amounted to 1,947 as against 5,385 in the previous year. With the exception of the Tenasserim Division, the season was generally a favourable one in Lower Burma. The Amherst, Mergui, Thatôn and Toungoo Districts suffered severely from rinderpest, but elsewhere the mortality was small. No serious outbreak of anthrax was recorded, the Thatôn District reporting the greatest number of deaths, namely 591. Foot-and-mouth disease caused no trouble. In Upper Burma rinderpest was troublesome in two Districts, Katha and Bhamo. The reported deaths in the former amounted to 2,160 and in the latter to 1,031. Neither anthrax nor foot-and-mouth disease caused trouble. The health of the cattle both in the Northern and Southern Shan States was reported to be good, but small outbreaks of rinderpest continued to occur in widely separated areas in the Southern Shan States, proving the continued existence of infection. Statistics of disease among ponies and mules are not recorded; but a serious outbreak of surra among the mules brought in from China was reported from the Myitkyina District, and there was an outbreak of it also in the Lashio valley in the Northern Shan States.

Preventive inoculation was carried out in 13 Districts. The cattle of 119 villages, amounting to 11,907 animals, were injected, as against 8,946 belonging to 54 villages in 12 Districts in the previous year. There were no unsatisfactory results: 129 of the inoculated animals died, but the proportion of inoculated to uninoculated animals which succumbed in the outbreaks was 1 to 16. Results varied greatly in the different Districts, being as high as 1 to 6 in Amherst and 1 to 9 in Thatôn, while in 6 Districts a total of 295 deaths included no inoculated

animal. The total number of animals treated by the veterinary staff for contagious diseases was 37,764 as against 40,301, and for non-contagious diseases 56,190 as against 50,973. The reported deaths from non-contagious diseases amounted to 63,057 in Lower Burma and to 17,050 in Upper Burma. Certain proposals for extending facilities for inoculation against rinderpest brought forward by the Government of India were under discussion during the year. It is hoped that some action may ultimately be possible through the medium of co-operative and cattle insurance societies. It is reported that the segregation rules are understood by the people and were generally well observed throughout the Province, though some outbreaks of disease occurred through a disregard of them. The use of segregation camps was further extended during the year, notably in the Pyapôn and Ruby Mines Districts, and excellent results are reported to have been obtained from them.

Stock.

87. The growth in the numbers of agricultural stock was normal, fodder and water were everywhere sufficient and outbreaks of diseases were few; only in the Tenasserim Township of Mergui and in the Tigyaing Township of Katha did rinderpest hamper agricultural operations. The number of bulls and bullocks rose to 2,095,795 and of cows to 1,520,691. Male and female buffaloes both showed an increase, the figures returned being 386,392 and 402,331 respectively. The stock both of calves and buffalo calves increased. Sheep are in insignificant numbers in the Province, and again show a slight decrease. Goats increased to 184,420, and horses and ponies by 13,425 to 93,806. Ploughs and carts numbered 579,809 and 635,369 respectively.

Agricultural loans.

88. The advances made under the Agriculturists' Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 9·61 lakhs bringing the aggregate sum loaned out up to Rs. 20·91 lakhs. The amount due for collection was Rs. 12·15 lakhs, of which Rs. 10·10 lakhs were collected within the year, being 83 per cent. of the amount due as against 76 per cent. in 1911-12. The increase is to be attributed to the good harvests of the year. Suspensions amounted to Rs. 1·22 lakhs; and the principal overdue at the end of the year was Rs. 1·26 lakhs, though almost the whole of this amount was collected by the end of the agricultural year in June 1913. The balance outstanding was Rs. 10·76 lakhs. In five Districts, Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Magwe, Meiktila and Yamèthin, it was found necessary to suspend the collection of large sums. In Magwe irrigation failed in the Taungdwingyi Subdivision, and in Meiktila and Yamèthin cultivators were still suffering from the failure of former harvests. In Pegu collection was delayed and in Tharrawaddy great difficulty was experienced in collecting advances made four or five years ago. The issue of these advances is in great measure left to the discretion of the district officers. They are utilized by cultivators in the purchase of seed and cattle. The extension of co-operative credit societies will in process of time render the issue of these loans unnecessary.

The amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act was Rs. 16,175, double the sum lent in 1911-12. The Districts which made an increased use of the facilities offered by the Act were Thatôn, Thayetmyo and Myingyan; in the first named District the loans were utilized for the erection of bunds to keep out sea water and in the other two for purposes of irrigation.

The profit accruing to the Local Government from these loan operations, after repayment of principal and interest at 3½ per cent. to the Government of India amounted to Rs. 48,619.

Protection from floods.

89. Protection by embankments from inundation of lands suitable for cultivation is undertaken on a large scale by the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department along the course of the Irrawaddy River in Lower Burma and also on a smaller scale along the banks of the Sittang River and along the Yayundy Stream in the Pegu District. These embankments on the west bank of the Irrawaddy consist of one running from the north of the Myanaung Subdivision of the Henzada District to the entrance to the Ngawun or Bassein River and a second surrounding the north of the Henzada Island from the Thabaung Township

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on the south-west to Pantanaw on the south-east. A short embankment on the east bank of the Irrawaddy runs from Sagagyi to Sangin. Further south the northern portions of the Ma-ubin and Thôngwa Islands have been similarly embanked. The three embankments along the Sittang River are known as the Sittang, the Zwebat-Moyingyi and the Pegu embankments. For the Irrawaddy embankments proper, in which the Myanaung, the Henzada Island, the Sagagyi-Sangin and the Thôngwa Island embankments are included, both capital and revenue accounts are kept. The remaining embankments have revenue accounts only.

The total capital outlay on the embankments for which capital and revenue accounts are kept was Rs. 39·37 lakhs. Working expenses amounted to Rs. 3·49 lakhs and receipts to Rs. 14·33 lakhs, thus showing a profit of Rs. 10·84 lakhs, or a return of 27·52 per cent. on the capital outlay. The area protected by these works is given in the departmental report at 480,923 acres. From embankments for which only revenue accounts are kept, a net revenue of Rs. 5·35 lakhs was derived; the area protected by them was 196,147 acres. All these figures compare favourably with the previous year, but the return on the embankments of the former description was slightly less owing to an increase in the working expenses.

The work of embanking the Yayundy Stream was practically completed during the year. The accounts show a deficit of Rs. 19,026 on the year's working. The area protected is given at 1,648 acres. The work of raising the Ma-ubin Island embankment was continued, and the expenditure on this work now amounts to Rs. 12,619 on a sanctioned estimate of Rs. 16,180. An extension of the Sakangyi retirement of this embankment was completed at a cost of Rs. 21,362. A sum of Rs. 22,278 was spent during the year on the Ngawun branch of the Henzada section of the Irrawaddy embankment for the construction of a retirement and Rs. 11,782 on raising the embankment of the Henzada section. A sum of Rs. 1,00,000 was paid over to the Burma Railways as compensation for the damage done and the loss of traffic caused by the demolition of portion of the *Letpadan-Tharrawaw Line* in 1907. This sum had been fixed by compromise. The work of constructing a retirement to protect the lower portion of Henzada Town which was begun in 1911-12 was completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 17,199. The work of widening and deepening the Myagyaw creek in the Myaungmya District has begun.

Weather and Crops.

Character of the seasons.

90. In contrast to the two preceding years, the agricultural year 1912-13 was marked by excellent harvests. Over Lower Burma the rainfall, though below the average in amount, was timely and evenly distributed, and floods were slight. In Upper Burma in the dry zone favourable early and late rains produced good crops on the uplands, while in irrigated areas the water-supply was ample throughout the year. On the islands and in riverine tracts a fair harvest was gathered, although the Irrawaddy did not reach so high a level as in 1911-12.

Outturns and prices.

91. The Provincial rice outturn was estimated at 97 per cent. of normal and the exportable surplus was calculated to be 2,620,000 tons of cargo rice. In 1911-12 the final forecast figures were 2,425,000 tons, while the actual exports, excluding Bengal paddy, were 2,412,000 tons. Arrangements have now been made to obtain regular forecasts from certain Upper Burma Districts where the rice crop is important. Speculation based on a strong demand from the Straits, China and Japan forced the price of paddy as high as Rs. 220 at Rangoon in July. Such was the demand for rice for export that 80,000 tons of paddy were imported from Bengal to be milled here. Subsequently prices collapsed and at the end of November the price of paddy oscillated round Rs. 140. Early supplies of the new crop were marketed at this figure, but by the end of February prices had receded to Rs. 125. They rallied to Rs. 140 in April but fell away again, and at the close of the year stood about Rs. 130. A noteworthy

feature in the history of the year was that prices in the jungle for considerable periods stood higher than prices at Rangoon. This strength of stock holders, which brought about the price rally in April, is to be ascribed to the better godown accommodation now available in the Districts. Large stocks are reported to be still held back in the hope of higher prices.

The final cotton forecast for the year placed the Provincial yield at 45,000 bales. Export statistics, however, tend to show that the outturn was underestimated. The Provincial output of groundnut was estimated in the final forecast at 75,000 tons. In the absence of trustworthy estimates of local consumption it is impossible adequately to test this forecast. The outturn of white beans was higher, that of red beans lower, than in the preceding year. The yield of sesamum was much higher, and millet, maize and wheat outturns also were better.

The good rice harvest lessened the demand for millet and maize, and the price fell. Plentiful supplies also brought down the price of sesamum. But in spite of heavy crops the price of groundnut at harvest remained at last year's level, while the price of cotton at Myingyan was even a little higher. At the Allanmyo factories combination succeeded in reducing the price paid to the cultivator. The prices of beans varied with the acreages sown : white beans fetched a little less, red beans and *peyin* a little more than in 1911-12. Local supplies and local demand governed the fluctuations in the values of tobacco and chillies.

Co-operation.

Co-operative Rural Societies.

92. The main features of the year's work were a moderate increase of Rural Societies in the Districts in which co-operation has already been established; the continued growth of the Upper Burma Central Bank; a large increase in the volume of debt liquidation and land redemption done through societies in the Mandalay, Kyauksè and Sagaing Districts; and the progress of land settlement in the Môn Canal Tract. Other points that may attain importance later are the proposed establishment of a Central Cattle Re-insurance Society and the development of the co-operative sale of paddy, wheat, cotton and sleepers and of co-operative purchase of rice. The formation of a Provincial Post Office Co-operative Credit Society; the establishment of Co-operative Tenancy Societies in Lower Burma; the holding of two District Conferences in Sagaing and Kyauksè; and the adoption of technical and financial measures for the improvement of the silk industry in Amarapura are also worthy of notice. The number of Agricultural Credit Societies rose from 691 with 16,821 members to 976 with 23,731 members. These credit societies are of the Luzatti and Raiffeisen type. They lend at the rate of 15 per cent. and pay on deposits at the rate of 9 per cent. Their working capital was Rs. 28·10 lakhs as against Rs. 18·52 lakhs in 1911-12. Of this the societies found Rs. 7½ lakhs, in shares, deposits by members and Reserve Funds while Central Banks and non-members supplied Rs. 17½ lakhs. The share capital during the year rose from Rs. 2·79 lakhs to Rs. 4·48 lakhs, and the Reserve Funds from Rs. 74,243 to Rs. 1·52 lakhs. Loans and deposits from non-members and societies amounted to Rs. 16,068 and Rs. 17·40 lakhs, as against Rs. 25,151 and Rs. 11·76 lakhs respectively in 1911-12. Loans from Government increased from Rs. 1·84 lakhs to Rs. 2·92 lakhs, but of this Rs. 2·82 lakhs were advances to the societies in the Môn Canal Tract. Deposits of members decreased slightly from Rs. 34,304 to Rs. 31,689. The loans made to individuals and societies amounted to Rs. 19·97 lakhs and Rs. 6,715, as against Rs. 15·59 lakhs and *nil* respectively in the previous year. The working expenses were Rs. 33,254 as against Rs. 20,439. The total profit on the year's working was Rs. 1·29 lakhs as against Rs. 78,667 in the previous year. The total turnover was Rs. 59·60 lakhs, and the percentage of cost was ·55. The percentage for Rural Raiffeisen Societies in Germany is only ·18, and the large percentage in the Province is due chiefly to the rudimentary means of remittance of money, and to the practical absence of good communications over the greater part of the country.

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While in Upper Burma the development of agricultural co-operation has proceeded apace, its progress in Lower Burma has been slow. This is accounted for by the different conditions obtaining in these two portions of the Province. The counterpart of the cultivator farming 10 or 12 acres in Upper Burma is in Lower Burma the man who farms 50 or 60 acres. The financial requirements of the latter cannot be so easily satisfied as those of the former, and to meet them adequately greater experience and ampler funds will be needed. At present, of the 976 agricultural credit societies, only 112 are in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma great strides were made with the Môn Canal colonisation scheme. Credit societies in the tract increased from 61 to 85 and their members from 1,541 to 2,438. The total amount of Government loans issued in this tract since the beginning of the work in December 1911 is Rs. 3·73 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·82 lakhs were outstanding on the 30th June 1913. The results achieved are reported to be exceedingly satisfactory. Cheap capital has been introduced and has rendered it easy for cultivators to establish themselves on the land. The conditions prevailing in the early years of the Mandalay and Shwebo Canals, when the rates for money were from 60 to 300 per cent. have been rendered impossible.

Unions and Central Banks.

93. There were 67 unions in 13 Districts comprising 770 agricultural credit societies, as against 43 comprising 486 societies in 1911-12. Their funds with the previous year's closing balance amounted to Rs. 12,581. This was raised by a rate on working capital as in previous years. The expenditure on inspection was Rs. 8,209, and the closing balance was Rs. 4,571. Six Inspectors on Rs. 50 *per mensem* were maintained from the funds. These unions are merely controlling agencies.

There are now four Central Banks, the Sagu-Salin Central Bank being opened at Sagu in October 1912 to supply funds to societies in the Minbu District not entitled to agricultural advances under the colonisation scheme. The share capital was Rs. 17,950, deposits amounted to Rs. 31,863 and the balance sheet at the close of the year showed a profit of Rs. 900. The Pegu Central Bank established in the previous year remained a collecting agency only. The bulk of the requirements of agricultural credit societies are met by loans from the Upper Burma Central Bank, Mandalay, and the Pakôkku Central Bank. The management of the latter, after its reorganisation, improved, but it is reported that there is still room for further improvement. The share capital was Rs. 19,600, and the deposits amounted to Rs. 81,000 and the profit for the year was Rs. 3,700. The Upper Burma Central Bank, which is practically the Provincial Central Bank, continued to develop. The share capital on the 30th June 1913 was Rs. 1·63 lakhs held by 440 individual members and 760 societies. Deposits amounted to Rs. 15·25 lakhs. There was an overdraft of Rs. 85,000, at the National Bank of India at Mandalay and a loan of one lakh of rupees was taken from the same Bank during the year. Loans to societies stood at Rs. 16·99 lakhs. Investments amounted to Rs. 2·17 lakhs and the reserve fund to Rs. 13,800. The profit for the year was Rs. 41,200. After the payment of a dividend at 9 per cent. a sum of Rs. 12,800 was carried to reserve.

Other Societies.

94. The number of societies registered as urban, that is non-agricultural, rose from 37 to 40. Of these 16 are societies of salary earners, the largest of which is the new Postal Society, organised during the year by the Postmaster-General. The report foreshadows the formation of Police Societies. There were seven silk weavers' Societies, and one cane-workers' Society. All of these are contained in the Amarapura Union. Good progress was made at the Societies' weaving school at Amarapura and the Government of India sanctioned a grant of Rs. 6,000 for the engagement of an expert from England or India. The total number of members in urban societies was 2,624. The working capital rose from Rs. 4·04 lakhs to Rs. 5·33 lakhs and the share capital from Rs. 1·54 lakhs to Rs. 2·24 lakhs. The profit on the year's working was Rs. 29,000. There is scope for co-operation in many local industries besides silk weaving, and the enquiry into the economics of local industries, it is hoped, will be resumed.

Nine co-operative sale-societies were working during the year and the results of their work were encouraging, though still largely experimental. Six sold members' paddy, the remainder wheat, cotton and railway sleepers. Three Rangoon firms bought paddy from them and the Supply and Transport Department paddy and wheat. The society for the extraction and sale of sleepers was formed in the north of the Shwebo District owing to the scarcity brought on by drought. A contract for 10,000 sleepers was obtained from the Railway and the work progressed smoothly. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Cattle Insurance Societies increased from 23 to 57 within the short space of two and a half months. It was then thought desirable to make arrangements for re-insurance, especially as there was every indication that the number of cattle insurance societies would continue to increase largely. Pending the establishment therefore, of a Central Re-insurance Society, no new societies were registered after September. Proposals for the establishment of a central society are being examined. Under the present bye-laws the premium is Rs.3—2 per cent. *per annum*. Deaths from rinderpest are excluded. Fifty-seven societies have Rs. 3,300 in hand. Rupees 141 were paid in indemnities on nine deaths. Working expenses amounted to Rs. 34. Two thousand and ninety-nine head of cattle were insured at the end of the year, the full value of which was Rs. 76,396. The possibility of the inclusion in the insurance of death from rinderpest is being considered.

An experiment was begun in Lower Burma with the establishment of two Co-partnership Tenancy Societies, one at Yebuwa in the Pyapôn District and the other at Thanatpin in the Pegu District. The object is to collect capital from tenants and others by shares and acquire land for cultivation by the tenant shareholders. The scheme is as yet in its infancy, but promises well.

Rules under the new Act II of 1912 were published during the year.

Horticulture.

95. There are two Agri-Horticultural Societies in the Province, *i.e.*, the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein. Horticultural Societies.

The former increased its membership by eight, and the financial results of the year were not unsatisfactory, the deficit at the close of the year being only Rs. 1,549-3-10, as against a deficit of Rs. 6,603-14-11 at the end of 1911, although a sum of Rs. 3,393 was written off as depreciation during the year. The income from all sources was Rs. 25,435-8-3, as against Rs. 25,258-7-3 in 1911. Of the income Government and the Rangoon Municipality contributed by grant Rs. 2,400 and Rs. 3,000 respectively.

The Committee appointed under the bye-laws of the Society was enlarged by 12 members and representatives of the native communities were placed on it. This may tend to popularize and enlarge the sphere of influence of the Society. The Society has in view the undertaking of a new water scheme to cost Rs. 5,279. The question of funds with which to meet this work may be one of difficulty unless its expenditure is carefully watched. The annual exhibition of flowers, plants and fruits was held as usual with success during the year, but the industrial section was omitted owing to lack of funds. The demand for plants, etc., by the people continued good, and the Society was able to meet it successfully.

The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society at Moulmein published no report of the year's work.

Forests.

96. The total area of forest reserves in the Province rose during the year from 26,136 to 27,023 square miles. An area of 854 square miles was notified as new reserves. Forty-two square miles thrown up by the Sittang river were added to the Kadonbaw and Alangon Reserves in the Tenasserim Circle. Four square miles were struck off on a recomputation of areas while 14 square miles Forest reserves, surveys, settlements and working-plans.

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were disafforested. The total area of unclassed forests at the close of the year was 106,592 square miles, a decrease of 4,626 square miles as compared with the previous year. Of this area 2,051 square miles were due to a correction of last year's figures bringing them in agreement with those of the Land Records Department. The area finally settled during the year was 843 square miles at a cost of Rs. 10,573. The total length of boundaries was 23,598 miles, a decrease of 136 miles on last year's figures. The decrease is due to 596 miles of internal boundaries hitherto shown as external boundaries being omitted. The total length of new boundaries demarcated was 1,041 miles. Three hundred and forty-two square miles of reserved forests and 266 linear miles of boundaries were surveyed by the topographical branch of the Survey of India. A special Forest Survey branch will be required to map the 12,776 square miles of reserves still awaiting survey.

Working-plans were sanctioned for 274 square miles of reserved forests during the year of which 106 square miles lay in the Bhamo Division, and 168 in the Ruby Mines Division. The working-plan reports for 1,737 square miles have been written but have not yet been submitted to the Local Government for sanction. The field work in connection with working-plans for another 574 square miles was taken in hand during the year. The revision of the sanctioned working-plans for 292 square miles was also undertaken. Working-plans are still required for 7,315 square miles of reserved and 436 square miles of unclassed forests.

Preservation of the forests.

97. Offences against Forest Rules increased from 4,228 to 4,765. Better work was done by the protective staff. The exhaustion of supplies of timber and fuel in unclassed forests in parts of the Pegu and Tenasserim Circles led to offences in reserved forests and an attempt was made to discourage large waste in conversion of timber by timber-traders, especially in the unclassed forests of the Northern and Southern Circles. The principal increase was again under the head of unauthorized fellings and occurred in all Circles.

Fire-protection was more successful than in the previous year. Protection was attempted over 4,040,247 acres and was successfully carried out over 3,842,479 acres, at a total cost of Rs. 2·39 lakhs. The unclassed forests are open to free grazing. The incidence of grazing in reserved forests is very low. Injury from cattle is reported only in some of the plains reserves in the Tharrawaddy, Zigôn and Prome Divisions where all the unclassed forests have disappeared and no other place exists for cattle grazing.

Improvement of the forests.

98. The expenditure on new buildings during the year amounted to Rs. 70,253. Of this sum Rs. 23,838 were spent on quarters for subordinates, Rs. 28,055 on rest-houses and Rs. 17,923 on headquarter houses. The expenditure under the last head is lower as houses at headquarters have been built by the Public Works Department; Rs. 41,548 were spent on repairs to existing buildings. The expenditure on new roads and paths amounted to Rs. 50,949—of which cart roads took Rs. 19,222 and bridle paths Rs. 30,797—and on repairs to Rs. 27,262. The decreased expenditure on communications is due to lack of funds. Roads and buildings are both urgently required. The area of regular plantations was reduced by 381 acres on a recomputation of areas. Teak plantations on hillside clearings (*Taungyas*) were made during the year, but the total area of this class of plantation decreased by 1,623 acres chiefly on a recomputation of areas. Improvement fellings were made over 89,990 acres at a cost of Rs. 46,902.

Exploitation of teak and other woods.

99. The number of teak trees girdled during the year was 159,989, an increase of 14 per cent. on the figures for 1911-12. Over 41,000 tons of teak were extracted by Government Agency, and of this amount nearly 29,000 tons or 70 per cent. were extracted from the forests in the Pegu Circle. Purchasers extracted nearly 214,000 tons, an increase of 3 per cent. on the previous year's figures which however were low. The floating season was exceptionally good in Lower Burma, it was bad in the Northern Circle and normal in the Southern Circle, though conditions on the Shweli river were not good. The extraction of other timber

and fuel by purchasers showed an increase of 34 and 65 per cent. respectively over the figures of the previous year. The increased extraction of reserved timbers other than teak was most marked in the Tenasserim and Pegu Circles of Lower Burma. The timber extracted on free grants during the year amounted to nearly one and a half million cubic feet (of which 15 per cent. was teak) as compared with one million cubic feet in the previous year. The increase was almost entirely confined to the Bassein-Myaungmya Division of the Pegu Circle.

Finance.

100. The financial results are noticed in Chapter V in the section entitled Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.

Mines and Quarries.

The Indian Mines Act.

101. Of the mines falling under the provisions of the Indian Mines Act, the galena mines in the Mandalay District were not worked during the year, and the steatite mines at Sanbawgyi on the confines of the Minbu and Kyaukpyu Districts were exempted from the operation of the Act. On the other hand, increased mining activity in Tavoy raised the number of mines in that District which come within the provisions of the Act to 31. No advisory boards have yet been constituted in the Province, but since the close of the year the mining public in Tavoy has constituted a Chamber of Mines. The health reports from the Mergui and Ruby Mines Districts where the Burma Development Syndicate and the Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited, respectively work were good, but malaria is said to be prevalent in Tavoy. In the Ruby Mines the rate of wages for unskilled labour was 12 annas *per diem* and in Mergui from 12 annas to Re. 1, the Development Syndicate there providing the food supplies and debiting the cost against the wages due. In Tavoy a contractual system is in vogue in the wolfram mines, the actual worker being engaged by the gangman contractor. Women and children were employed in Tavoy; they are not entered in the returns and it is reported that they are employed only to a limited extent and in none but surface and alluvial workings. One fatal accident resulting in one death occurred at the Ruby Mines. In Tavoy nine fatal and one serious accidents caused fifteen deaths and one serious injury. The reporting of accidents in the past is said to have been defective, and an improvement in this respect is anticipated.

New concessions.

102. The number of applications for prospecting and exploring licenses and for mining leases disposed of during 1912 was 956 and 12 respectively, as against 1,367 and 18 respectively during 1911. At the end of the year there were 265 applications for prospecting and exploring licenses and 36 applications for mining leases pending as against 610 and 23 respectively at the close of the previous year. These figures go to show that the prospecting fever abated somewhat during the year. The hopes of prospectors are still centred on the Tavoy and Mergui Districts. Of the 301 applications for licenses and leases pending at the end of the year no less than 158 were applications relating to these two Districts, wolfram in nearly every case being the mineral coveted. In the rest of Burma applications to prospect for petroliferous areas were most numerous. Gold and coal have a few devotees. Five mining leases were granted as compared with seven in 1911. Of these three were for mineral oil in Pakôkku and Myingyan; one for iron ore in the Maymyo Township of the Mandalay District and one for lead and silver in the Southern Shan States.

Petroleum.

103. The output of petroleum in the Province during the year amounted to 245 million gallons, valued at Rs. 144 lakhs and exceeding the output of the previous year by 23 million gallons. The Districts that contributed to this output were Magwe with 179¾ million gallons, Myingyan with 56½, Pakôkku with nearly 5 and Minbu with close on 4. Smaller quantities were contributed by Akyab, Kyaukpyu, and Thayetmyo. With the exception of Akyab, where the production fell from 19,000 to 15,000 gallons, every District shows an increased

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output. Magwe had an increase of 13 million gallons. Wells in the Yenangyaung oil-field have now been drilled to a depth of 2,400 feet, where new sands have been met with. The increase in the Myingyan District was six million gallons. Though applications to prospect on the Singu oil-field were numerous, no great development took place in this field during the year. It is held as a reserve field by the Burma Oil Company and the Rangoon Oil Company and increased production on it does not necessarily mean increased development. The increase in the Pakôkku District where the Yenangyat oil-field is situated, was small, being some 40,000 gallons, but in Minbu the output rose from 632,000 gallons to no less than 3,896,000 gallons. In the Thayetmyo District, where one prospector won oil, the output rose from 1,355 to 53,450 gallons. In the Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts the production was practically stationary. In the Upper Chindwin District the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company commenced drilling operations at their field at Indaw in the Kindat Township.

Gold.

104. The output of gold in the Province fell during the year. In the Myitkyina District, where the Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, holds the right to dredge for gold in the bed of the Irrawaddy river, the output fell from 6,390 ozs. to 4,995 ozs. valued at Rs. 2·84 lakhs. Elsewhere, gold winning was carried on by native methods and on a totally insignificant scale. The Katha, Pakôkku and Upper Chindwin Districts were the only Districts besides the Myitkyina District, to return figures, and the output between them was only 73 ozs.

Rubies.

105. The ruby mines in the Mogôk valley in the Ruby Mines District were worked during the year by the Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited. Rubies, sapphires and spinels to the value of Rs. 9·24 lakhs, Rs. 65,000 and Rs. 9,590 respectively were extracted, as against stones to the value of Rs. 9·65 lakhs, Rs. 29,000 and Rs. 10,500 in the previous year. The value of the Company's total output fell very slightly. The ruby market in Europe was bad, but the local market was good though prices ruled low. The sapphire market was good. The Company began to extend their operations into the neighbouring Kathè and Bernardmyo valleys. The profit for the year ending the 28th February 1913 was £8,159. Of this £2,818 is payable to the Government of India as the tax on profits. The royalties collected from the native miners during the year ending the 30th June 1913 amounted to Rs. 2·87 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 1·81 lakhs for the year ending the 29th February 1912. These royalties are payable to Government, but 10 per cent. is retained by the Company as remuneration for the collection. The increase in these royalties is due to a rush to Bernardmyo consequent on a find of stone there at the beginning of the year. New finds of stones were also made at Kabaing, Gwebin and Sinkwa.

Other minerals.

106. The production of wolfram fell to 8,026 cwts. valued at Rs. 4·99 lakhs. In Tavoy the fall was of some 12,500 cwts., but this is said to be due not to exhaustion, but to the closing down of some areas where boundary disputes had arisen. Mergui more than doubled its output and the Southern Shan States show a slight increase. Tin ore from the Mergui District fell to 1,026 cwts. valued at Rs. 82,488, but from the Mergui and Tavoy Districts tin was produced to the amount of 4,014 cwts. valued at Rs. 5·43 lakhs; 12,560 tons of iron ore valued at Rs. 4,318 were extracted in the Mandalay District, as against 20,995 tons in the previous year. In the Northern Shan States the production of lead slag and silver lead ore fell off slightly from 31,954 and 3,218 tons respectively to 22,563 tons valued at Rs. 8·96 lakhs and 2,950 tons valued at Rs. 61,415. Six hundred and twenty-four tons of copper ore were also produced. Jade weighing 806 cwts. valued at Rs. 24,299 was extracted in the Myitkyina District, as compared with 2,063 cwts. worth Rs. 1·72 lakhs extracted during the previous year. The disturbances in China affected the trade in this mineral detrimentally, but the outlook at the end of the year was brighter. Twenty-seven cwts. of amber valued at Rs. 2,680 were brought in from the Hukong valley, as against 13½ cwts. worth Rs. 2,000 in the previous year.

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Quarry stones and clay.

107. Large quantities of clay, sandstone, limestone, laterite, gravel and granite were extracted during the year for the requirements of the Public Works Department, the Burma Railways, and the Municipalities for building and road-making purposes. The largest quarries in the country are the quarry on the island of Kalagauk in the Amherst District and the quarry at Zingyaik opened during the year in the Thatôn District, from both of which the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon derive their supplies of stone for their river training works.

Revenue from mines and quarries.

108. The receipts from fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber amounted to Rs. 33·17 lakhs and were the highest yet recorded. Compared with the figures of the previous year the increase was Rs. 4·48 lakhs. In Magwe, fees, rents and royalties on petroleum increased by Rs. 2·53 lakhs. In the Minbu District rents and royalties more than doubled themselves. Thayetmyo showed a good increase while royalties on petroleum in Myingyan increased by Rs. 62,835. In the Myitkyina District the license to collect royalty on jade produced only Rs. 12,495, as against Rs. 44,133 in the previous year, but in the Ruby Mines District there was a substantial increase in the royalties on precious stones, the total receipts being Rs. 3·23 lakhs as against Rs. 1·68 lakhs. Fees, rents and royalties on other minerals show a decrease of Rs. 50,653, from Rs. 2·36 lakhs to Rs. 1·85 lakhs. The Tenasserim Division was responsible for 80 per cent. of this decrease, the total receipts there falling from Rs. 1·93 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. 1·52 lakhs. In the four Districts of this Division, Thatôn, Amherst, Tavoy, and Mergui, surface rents paid under prospecting licenses declined, and royalties also declined, owing to the lowering of royalty rates on wolfram.

Manufactures.

Principal industries.

109. The Census Report of 1911 gives the percentage of the population of the Province engaged in industries as 6·70 only. The industries that have expanded largely and reached big dimensions are few in number. Rice-milling, saw-milling and the extraction and refining of petroleum are practically the only industries carried on on a large scale, though non-agricultural occupations, such as mining, and the transport services, such as the Railway and the Irrawaddy Flotilla Steamer Companies that partake of an industrial nature, support ·13 and 3·27 per cent. respectively, of the population. The special industrial census of large industries undertaken at the same time as the census returned 29,872 persons employed in rice-milling, 9,833 persons in saw-milling and 11,150 engaged in chemical industries, of whom 10,747 were employed in the various operations of petroleum refining. For mines and petroleum wells 9,006 workers were returned, while on transport construction 4,907 persons were engaged. The figures of the Provincial returns for the year of report indicate no great change in these industries. Cotton-mills, however, with a daily average of 3,307 workers now show a great advance. Apart from these industries that are largely controlled and guided by European agency, a few indigenous industries are to be found in the Province. The most important of these is the silk weaving industry at Amarapura near Mandalay and at Shwedaung in the Prome District. The industry was introduced into the former place by the Manipuris brought to Amarapura in the early part of the nineteenth century, and has been carried on ever since by their descendants and by the Burmese living in the neighbourhood. Of late years the industry has fallen on bad times and the high price of the raw material imported from China, together with foreign competition, has threatened to destroy it in both centres. An attempt is now being made to help it by the establishment of co-operative credit societies. Other indigenous industries, such as the manufacture of cigars, mats, pottery, shoes, umbrellas, carts, etc., are generally carried on as a subsidiary occupation, and do not call for any detailed comment.

Factories.

110. The Indian Factories Act, 1911, came into force throughout the Province on the 1st July 1912, repealing the Indian Factories Act, 1881. District Magistrates remain Inspectors of Factories for their Districts, but Civil Surgeons

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are henceforth concerned only with the certification of children in factories. Under the provisions of the Act factories in Upper Burma were for the first time brought on to the register as well as factories in Lower Burma, and the number of factories registered rose consequently from 307 to 438. The largest increases were in rice-mills from 165 to 245; and in saw-mills from 88 to 114. Cotton-mills rose from 2 to 13. The other increases are insignificant. The average daily number of operatives rose from 43,784 to 50,723, of whom 46,358 were males, 3,523 females and 842 children. Nineteen thousand four hundred and twenty-two of the operatives work in the Rangoon Town District and 8,566 in the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District. The work done by the women and children is reported to be generally light and away from machinery. In Rangoon only one female child was employed as against 155 male children, but in the Myingyan District 290 female children were employed as against 137 male children. Adult male operatives were exceeded by adult female operatives in only two Districts—in the Meiktila District which returns 64 against 46 males and in the Myingyan District which returns 1,398 females against 998 males.

The rate of wages for unskilled labour remained more or less unchanged, the rate in Rangoon being put at from Rs. 12 to Rs. 14 *per mensem* with quarters provided. It is pointed out however that the rate fluctuates largely owing to several factors. Among others the work in the mills is largely done by imported labour, and conditions in India regulate the supply. As the demand in Burma is constant, the conditions in India have an important bearing on the wage. For the more skilled trades there is no standard pay. A man's pay depends on the work he has to do.

An Inspector of Factories under the new Act was appointed from the 1st January 1913. During the year of report the health of the operatives was reported to be good, but the sanitary arrangements in factories are said to be defective, especially with regard to the water-supply and the ventilation in rice-mills. The fencing of the machinery and the mill-gearing is said to be generally unsatisfactory. Accidents reported fell from 385 to 349, but fatal accidents rose from 9 to 13. The proportion of non-fatal to fatal accidents reported during the last three years in Burma is 28 to 1, while the proportion in England for the last year for which figures are available is 124 to 1; hence the deduction that accidents in the past have not been fully reported. Serious accidents rose from 129 to 150. There was one prosecution under the new Act during the year.

Trade.

Maritime trade: total value and revenue.

III. The year has been one of increasing activity. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the Province amounted to Rs. 75·93 lakhs and exceeded that of the preceding year by 11½ crores, or nearly 18 per cent. Leaving treasure and Government stores out of account, the value of private merchandise, imported and exported, amounting to Rs. 66,45 lakhs exceeded that of 1911-12 by Rs. 8,88·6 lakhs, or 15·4 per cent. The imports of gold fell from the high figure they reached in 1911-12, namely, Rs. 2,68·11 lakhs, to a normal level, the actual figure being Rs. 66·16 lakhs. Only 275,856 sovereigns were imported during the year as against 1,663,790 in 1911-12; it is presumed that some difficulty was experienced in the absorption of this latter amount. The decline in gold imports was counter-balanced to some extent by the imports of silver. These were high, the excess of imports over exports being Rs. 3,05·13 lakhs, a figure which was surpassed in 1907-08 but which has not been approached within a crore in any other year.

The total value of the private foreign trade was Rs. 43,26 lakhs, but as rice accounts for more than half of Burma's export trade and since it is largely a matter of accident in what proportions her supplies of this commodity are divided between Indian and foreign ports, a sounder basis of comparison is afforded by a consideration of this external trade as a whole, omitting the purely coasting trade between ports within the Province. On this basis the total value of the private foreign trade was Rs. 62,69 lakhs, the advance being marked both in exports and in imports. The total exports from Burma to foreign or Indian ports amounted to

Rs. 38·5 crores in value, showing an improvement of 14 per cent. on the figures of 1911-12. As rice accounts for more than half of the export trade of the Province, the higher average price that ruled for it during the year—it was 5 per cent. above that of 1911-12—partly explains this increase in the total value. Even so rice accounts for only 52 per cent. of the total exports of the year as against 72 per cent. in the previous year; and notable increases took place in the exports of petroleum, timber, groundnuts, raw cotton and tobacco leaf. On the other hand, exports of lead, beans and cutch declined. Imports advanced by over 19 per cent. in the combined external trade. Their total value was Rs. 23,53 lakhs. Even after allowing for the general rise in prices throughout the world as evidenced by the British Board of Trade index number of wholesale prices being 5·2 per cent. higher than in 1911, the increase under certain articles is exceptional. The largest increases occurred in the imports of cotton and silk manufactures, liquors, sugar, biscuits and milk, hardware, paper, soap and matches. As against this the imports of salt and machinery declined, and excellent crops in the country reduced the imports of tobacco, groundnuts and sesamum from other parts of India. The value of the private coasting trade between Provincial ports rose from Rs. 4,10·75 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. 4,68·96 lakhs. Of this amount Rs. 2,46·72 lakhs represent imports and Rs. 2,22·24 lakhs exports. It may be noticed that imports exceed exports, as in the former are included freight and shipper's profit. The bulk of the trade is between Rangoon and the ports on the Tenasserim coast.

The total value of the trade in private merchandise with Indian ports outside Burma rose from Rs. 16,44 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. 19,45 lakhs. Imports of cotton twist and yarn from India increased, while there was a conspicuous decline in importations of tobacco, groundnuts and sesamum. Exports of rice and paddy continued small, being slightly larger than in 1911-12, but considerably less than in any of the preceding six years.

The advent in Indian waters of the Japanese steamship line, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and its competition with the British lines, such as the British India Steam Navigation Company, led to something in the nature of a freight war. Imports from Japan, however, remained more or less stationary, while the exports to Japan increased by 65 per cent., mainly owing to the heavy business done in rice. The balance of trade in the combined external trade of the Province that is to say, the excess in value of exports over imports, amounted to Rs. 15 crores. Excluding the treasure the net balance was over Rs. 11 crores.

The net customs duty realized, inclusive of the duty on imported salt, was Rs. 2,04·05 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 20 lakhs over that of the previous year. There was an improvement of 10·6 per cent. in the gross collections. Imports and exports were 16·7 and 9·7 per cent. better, but under "salt" there was a shrinkage of 7·8 per cent. Under import duty "liquors" contributed Rs. 23·66 lakhs, "cotton piece-goods" Rs. 13·18 lakhs, "tobacco" Rs. 7·99 lakhs, "sugar" Rs. 3·55 lakhs, "silk piece-goods" Rs. 3·40 lakhs, "petroleum" Rs. 1·65 lakhs. Rangoon's share of the total gross revenue was Rs. 1,71·82 lakhs, and in addition a sum of Rs. 24·35 lakhs was collected on account of exports of rice from outports. The total revenue of the outports amounted to Rs. 34·81 lakhs, of which Rs. 32·81 lakhs represented export duty on rice. The collections at the various outports were—Bassein, Rs. 17·93 lakhs; Moulmein Rs. 8·85 lakhs; Akyab, Rs. 7·21 lakhs; Tavoy, Rs. ·57 lakh; Mergui, Rs. ·20 lakh and Victoria Point Rs. ·05 lakh.

Rangoon trade: total figures.

112. The value of the total merchandise excluding treasure imported into Rangoon from foreign countries during the year was Rs. 13,56·63 lakhs as against Rs. 11,43·57 lakhs in 1911-12. The value of the articles and produce imported coastwise was Rs. 9,19·49 lakhs as against Rs. 7,65·62 lakhs. Exports from Rangoon to foreign countries again, excluding Government treasure, rose from Rs. 20,34·92 lakhs to Rs. 21,34·44 lakhs, and the value of the articles and produce exported coastwise from Rs. 7,98·94 lakhs to Rs. 9,33·66 lakhs.

Rangoon's share of the foreign trade declined from 85·92 per cent. in 1911-12 to 82·22 per cent. This decline is due to the diversion of part of its rice export trade to Bassein. The increasing port charges and the difficulties of shipment, no fewer than 231 vessels being compelled to finish their loading below the Hastings shoal, are the reasons alleged for this decline.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Rangoon trade; foreign imports.

113. The combined values of the foreign and coasting trade under *Textiles*—*Cotton* advanced 24 per cent. and represented 25 per cent. of the aggregate value of merchandise imported, the total value of the cotton goods imported reaching the figure of Rs. 5,75·60 lakhs as against Rs. 4,65·33 lakhs in 1911-12. The imports of *twist and yarn* were the highest on record, the combined foreign and Indian receipts being 18½ million pounds against the previous record of 15½ millions in 1908-09. *Yarns* from the United Kingdom rose by 76 per cent. in quantity and 69 per cent. in value. *Indian yarn* advanced by 80 per cent. in quantity and 77 per cent. in value, Calcutta's share being Rs. 40·19 lakhs and Bombay's Rs. 25·10 lakhs. The trade with Western China was dislocated during the year. In foreign imports of *piece-goods* there was a big advance of over 17 million yards valued at Rs. 39 lakhs. The United Kingdom's share of the total trade was 83 per cent., followed by Holland with 11 per cent. The increase is attributed to the prosperity of the people. The imports of *piece-goods* in the coasting trade advanced by over three million yards and Rs. 5 lakhs. The direct imports from Bombay were valued at Rs. 27·16 lakhs and from Calcutta came goods valued at Rs. 25·59 lakhs, a large proportion of which was probably manufactured in Bombay. From Madras and Pondicherry goods worth Rs. 12 lakhs and Rs. 3·93 lakhs respectively were received. In other cotton manufactures, *blankets* represented Rs. 19·22 lakhs, of which Germany supplied Rs. 8·91 lakhs, Holland Rs. 6·23 lakhs, and Belgium Rs. 3·58 lakhs. *Handkerchiefs* and *shawls* advanced from Rs. 2·49 lakhs to Rs. 5·73 lakhs, chiefly from the United Kingdom. *Hosiery* fell from Rs. 18·17 lakhs to Rs. 16·73 lakhs. Japan dropped from Rs. 9·69 lakhs to Rs. 6·14 lakhs, while Germany increased her contributions from Rs. 5·65 lakhs to Rs. 8·31 lakhs. *Sewing thread*, mostly from the United Kingdom, advanced from Rs. 7·30 lakhs to Rs. 9·15 lakhs.

The total value of the silk imports under *Textiles—Silk* rose from Rs. 77·58 lakhs to Rs. 1,01·66 lakhs. The imports of *raw silk* both in quantity and value were the highest on record. The supplies were obtained from China and Indo-China, with a small quantity from Siam. The overland arrivals from Western China were approximately 161,280 lbs. worth Rs. 9·11 lakhs, as against 102,612 lbs. valued at Rs. 5·71 lakhs. In *piece-goods* (pure) Japan has a monopoly of the trade and supplied 97 per cent. of the total imports. The imports were the highest on record, amounting to the value of Rs. 64·08 lakhs. *Goods of silk mixed with other materials* increased by 94 per cent. in value, the bulk arriving from the United Kingdom. A good demand has lately sprung up for *piece-goods of cotton mixed with artificial silk*, and this promises to increase.

There has been a steady improvement in the woollen trade since 1909-10 and it has now settled down to normal conditions. The total value of imports was Rs. 38·59 lakhs as against Rs. 36·77 lakhs in 1911-12. *Piece-goods* fell by Rs. 5·37 lakhs, the fall being attributed to the competition of well imitated cotton tweeds and coatings. Italy recovered her trade in *rugs* which was interfered with last year by the boycott. The share of the United Kingdom in the total trade fell from Rs. 22·93 lakhs to Rs. 19·61 lakhs, whereas that of Germany advanced from Rs. 11·57 lakh to Rs. 13·51 lakhs.

Apparel (*including Drapery, etc.*) showed a decline which is only partially accounted for by the exclusion this year of *second-hand clothing* and the important item of *waterproofed clothing*. On the other hand *hats, caps and bonnets* advanced by Rs. ·63 lakh to Rs. 3·55 lakhs. The *hat* trade is principally in the hands of the United Kingdom, but Italy has considerably strengthened her position. Part of the decline under *apparel* is due to a decrease in importation of *cotton pocket handkerchiefs* from Rs. 2·25 lakhs to Rs. 1·61 lakh. *Belts* remained stationary at Rs. 1·49 lakh. The share of the United Kingdom under this head is 69 per cent. as against 73 per cent. in the previous year.

There was a further improvement under *Haberdashery and Milinery* the total value recorded being Rs. 22·57 lakhs as against Rs. 17·91 lakhs, or an increase of 26 per cent. Japan's share fell from 32 to 27 per cent., but the share of the United Kingdom remained unchanged at 47 per cent. of the total.

Boots and shoes increased by Rs. 1·59 lakh: 91 per cent. came from the United Kingdom where the boot trade was in a flourishing condition in spite of the increased cost of raw material and labour.

There was a slight recovery in the trade of *Metals and ores* imports rising by 4 per cent. in volume and by 6 per cent. in value. *Brass* and *copper* continued to decrease. *Pig iron* showed further reduction, but imports from Bengal again advanced from 559 to 913 tons. More *tinned plates* were imported for the oil refineries.

There was a healthy expansion in *Hardware*. The value of the articles falling under this head rose from Rs. 39·46 lakhs to Rs. 45·09 lakhs, though it must be remembered that part of the increase is explained by the general rise in prices. The imports of *enamelled ironware* advanced in a remarkable manner; another interesting feature was the large number of *safes* imported, *viz.* 2,014, most of which, however, are reported to be neither fire nor burglar-proof. The United Kingdom contributed Rs. 21·82 lakhs to the total trade, Austria-Hungary following with Rs. 9·26 lakhs and Germany with Rs. 8·15 lakhs.

The imports of *Machinery and Millwork* declined from Rs. 43·89 lakhs to Rs. 31·31 lakhs, but the imports of *Railway Plant and Rolling Stock* advanced from Rs. 22·20 lakhs to Rs. 29·80 lakhs. Imports of *provisions* continued to increase, and the consumption of *oilman's stores* still grows in a remarkable manner. The total value of these stores imported during the year was Rs. 77·48 lakhs as against Rs. 58·25 lakhs in 1911-12. The increase is general under all items. Ten years ago the value of the imports of *condensed milk* and of *biscuits* was Rs. 1·71 and Rs. 1·33 lakh respectively, whreas to-day they each represent over Rs. 20 lakhs. Large quantities of canned and bottled provisions such as *jams, preserved fruit, sardines* and *other fish, farinaceous* and *patent foods, etc.*, are being consumed by the people, and the imports of condensed and preserved milk into the Province doubled those into the rest of India. The United Kingdom's share of the total trade was 52 per cent. Although the imports of *fish, unsalted and salted*, rose slightly from Rs. 21·30 lakhs to Rs. 21·99 lakhs, the trade has declined considerably during recent years and *cured fish* to the value of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs is now being yearly imported from India and foreign countries. Imports of "Provisions" coastwise advanced from Rs. 83·24 lakhs to Rs. 94·45 lakhs. Madras sent *fish dry unsalted* (Rs. 22·16 lakhs), Calcutta sent *ghi* (Rs. 21·87 lakhs), *dry beef* (Rs. 20·22 lakhs), *fruits* and *vegetables* (Rs. 10·24 lakhs); Chittagong sent *eggs* (Rs. 7·52 lakhs) and Bombay *butter* (Rs. 3·35 lakhs). Large quantities of *goats, sheep* and *poultry* were also imported from Calcutta and Chittagong. The Shan States may in time compete in this trade of farm produce. A beginning has been made with *potatoes* and exports from Burma during the year were valued at about two lakhs of rupees.

There was a decline of 10 per cent. in the quantity of *Salt* imported, the figures being 65,529 tons valued at Rs. 14·61 lakhs, as against 72,627 tons valued at Rs. 15 lakhs in 1911. Prices were maintained at a higher level than last year, and the fishery season was an indifferent one. The imports of *refined sugar* were the highest on record, the increase over 1911-12 being 52 per cent. in quantity and 33 per cent. in value. They amounted to 619,342 cwts. valued at Rs. 62·05 lakhs. Java contributed 86 per cent. or 510,477 cwts. valued at Rs. 48·62 lakhs. About 52,000 cwts. consigned from the Straits Settlements were mostly Java sugar. Hongkong sent about 25,000 cwts. of *cane sugar*, and Austria-Hungary 6,000 cwts. of *beet sugar*. Java also sent 10,000 cwts. of *molasses* for use in spirit distilleries in place of *jaggery* from India. The consumption of *confectionery* from the United Kingdom continued to increase.

There was a general increase in the consumption of *Liquors*. Imports of malt liquor (*ale, beer and porter*) increased by 33 per cent. in quantity and 45 per cent. in value. The figures are the highest on record. The United Kingdom supplied 1,001,301 gallons and Germany 211,194 gallons. Germany's share of the trade was over 20 per cent. as against 10 per cent. in 1906-07. Imports of *spirits* improved by 33,046 gallons, and nearly equalled the figures for 1909-10, at the close of which year the present rates of duty were fixed. Clearances for consumption of *brandy, gin, rum and whisky* advanced from 175,840 proof gallons

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to 190,880 proof gallons, the most noticeable increase being under *brandy* and *rum*, which are largely consumed in the liquor shops. There was also an advance from 11,032 liquid gallons to 15,811 liquid gallons under *spirits, other sorts*, principally "*shamshoo*" from China. The increase in the consumption of patent medicines is indicated by an increase in the quantity of *spirit present in drugs, etc.* There was a slight fall of about 200 gallons in the quantity of *methylated spirit* imported, but the quantity of *Java rum* denatured locally advanced from 6,640 gallons to 8,488 gallons. There has been a general improvement in the wine trade. *Claret* and *Vermouth* are the chief items, the consumption of the latter being on the increase.

Imports of *Tobacco* from foreign countries rose from Rs. 13·65 lakhs to Rs. 14·31 lakhs. *Cigarettes* from the United Kingdom were the main item under this head, accounting for Rs. 13·27 lakhs. Imports from India of *manufactured tobacco* and *cigars* fell, but the imports of *cigarettes* valued at Rs. 1·56 lakh more than doubled the previous year's figures. Under *Mineral Oils, fuel oils* were imported from Dutch Borneo to the value of Rs. 6·51 lakhs. This shows a decline of over one million gallons. Imports of *kerosene* from the United States again fell off, the quantity received being 862,620 gallons valued at Rs. 4·43 lakhs. *White oil*, a highly refined mineral oil used for the adulteration of vegetable oils, fell from about 400,000 gallons to 232,000 gallons. The total imports of *coal* advanced from 365,302 tons to 477,720 tons, of which 434,381 tons came from Bengal and 890 tons from other localities in India. Foreign imports increased from 14,892 tons to 42,449 tons, but of this 31,553 tons were Japanese coal used as ballast in steamers from Japan which, owing to the freight war, had more accommodation than cargo. Imports of British coal declined. *Cement* and *asphalte* advanced by Rs. 2½ lakhs, due to the reconstruction of roads in Rangoon. *Sulphuric acid* fell from 26,742 cwts. to 15,258 cwts., owing to the operations of a local firm. *Matches* rose by nearly Rs. 4½ lakhs to Rs. 17·39 lakhs. The cheap freights for shipment from Japan led to the supplies being sent direct from Japan instead of, as hitherto, from stocks in Straits ports. *Soap* advanced by over Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 17·15 lakhs, mainly from the United Kingdom. *Tea* from India rose from 342,000 lbs. to 1,024,490 lbs., while 214,807 lbs., mostly of an inferior quality, came from China. *Motor-cars* and *motor-cycles* rose in value by 66 per cent., the number of vehicles being 227. The popularity of the cheap American car led to the United States improving its share of the trade from 7 per cent. to 20 per cent. The imports of *cycles* were normal. *Sewing machines* advanced from 7,238 to 11,540. *Type-writers, talking machines* and *cinematograph films* improved. *Cutlery* from the United Kingdom rose from Rs. 1·15 lakh to Rs. 1·44 lakh, but Germany has now taken first place in the trade, sending Rs. 1·92 lakh as against Rs. ·84 lakh in 1911-12. Nearly 600,000 *umbrellas* valued at Rs. 5·97 lakhs were imported from abroad, while over 900,000 with a value of Rs. 7·34 lakhs came from India. This latter article is ousting the former. *Gunny bags* from Bengal advanced from 33 to 37½ millions worth Rs. 124·81 lakhs.

Rangoon trade: foreign exports.

114. The principal articles exported from Rangoon both coastwise and to foreign countries were in the order of value rice, husked and unhusked, mineral oils, wood and timber, cotton, raw and manufactured, rice bran, raw hides and skins, grain and pulse (excluding rice), tobacco, and metals. The total exports of rice and paddy from all ports in Burma rose from 2,174,588 tons valued at Rs. 22,57·51 lakhs to 2,327,990 tons valued at Rs. 25,63·20 lakhs. Rangoon's share of this was 67 per cent., or nearly 5 per cent. less than in the previous year. Prices in this trade rose to unprecedented heights in the early part of the year. A fear of shortage in the supplies, mistaken as subsequent events proved, a strong demand from Far Eastern countries, and the attempts of Chinese speculators to "bull" the market, all contributed to the rise, prices in the white rice market touching Rs. 555. These high prices led to importations of Bengal paddy, 55,000 tons being imported from Calcutta and 25,000 tons from Chittagong. A rapid decline in prices set in subsequently and continued till the end of the season. In the absence of factors favourable to a rise, the demand at the time of the new

crop was slacker, but stocks were held up in the Districts and this has tended to steady the market. Shipments to India were comparatively small; they were slightly larger than in 1911-12 but considerably less than in any of the preceding six years. Of the total exports of 260,000 tons, rice and paddy, 120,000 tons went to Bombay, which reshipped a considerable portion to East African ports. Shipments to the United Kingdom showed an increase of over 33,000 tons, but the biggest advance was in the trade with Japan, which took 100,000 tons more than in 1911-12. Of foreign countries of destination, the Straits were as usual the best market, followed by Germany, India and Japan. Foreign exports of *rice bran* declined by 6 per cent. from 223,730 tons to 210,266 tons, but owing to the high prices prevailing, the value showed an increase of Rs. 4 lakhs to Rs. 94·5 lakhs. The exports of *bran* from Rangoon declined, but those from Bassein show a remarkable increase from 3,380 tons in 1911-12 to 9,639 tons. The combined foreign and coasting exports of *teak wood* amounted to 192,721 cubic tons, of which 58,610 cubic tons went to foreign countries and 134,111 cubic tons to India. The United Kingdom was the best customer, taking 36,500 cubic tons, followed by Germany with 6,800 cubic tons. The exports from Rangoon amounting to 144,853 cubic tons valued at Rs. 1,62·20 lakhs were the highest on record, while Moulmein also exported 10,600 cubic tons more than in 1911-12. The prices of teak wood are steadily rising, and attention is being turned to timber *other than teak*, principally *In* and *Pyinkado*. The exports in all these woods from Rangoon amounted to 15,811 cubic tons valued at Rs. 11·25 lakhs, as against 5,279 cubic tons and Rs. 3·44 lakhs in 1911-12. Moulmein also supplied India with 17,000 tons of these woods valued at Rs. 10 lakhs. The oil industry continued to expand and exports were larger than ever. The total value of the exports of all *petroleum products* from Rangoon was Rs. 514·34 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 60 lakhs over the figures for 1911-12. Of these products India took Rs. 354·10 lakhs worth of *kerosene oil* as against Rs. 314·85 lakhs in the previous year. The foreign exports of *benzine, fuel oil and lubricating oil* rose by 45 per cent. in volume and 49 per cent. in value. Of the total quantity exported the United Kingdom absorbed 60 per cent. and Holland 21 per cent. Exports of *Paraffin wax* to India and foreign countries were 15 per cent. better in volume and 16 per cent. higher in value. The United Kingdom was the best customer, followed by the United States, Japan and Australasia. The output of *candles* increased. In the foreign and coasting trade exports were made of over 10½ million pounds valued at about Rs. 30 lakhs, an advance of one million pounds over the previous year. The best customers were India, China, Indo-China, Straits Settlements, Ceylon and Australasia.

Hides and skins have done well during the year. Values advanced in the London market by at least 25 to 30 per cent. eclipsing the previous record of 1857. The total value of the exports was Rs. 64·53 lakhs as against Rs. 58·33 lakhs in the previous year. The bulk of these exports go to Italy, her share being one-fifth of the total. The market in Turkey in Asia was ruined by the war in the Balkans and the United Kingdom now takes second place. The area under cotton in the Province is expanding and the exports of *raw cotton*, exceeded the figures for 1911-12 by 39 per cent. in volume and 31 per cent. in value. The total value of the cotton exported was Rs. 87·67 lakhs. The United Kingdom and Japan shared the foreign exports and Calcutta absorbed the bulk of the coasting trade. The exports of *groundnut* amounted to 302,590 cwts., exceeding by 25 per cent. or more those of the best previous years, 1906-07, 1907-08 and 1909-10, and being five times the amount of 1911-12. The exports of the by-product, *groundnut oil-cake*, also improved very considerably, and local shipments of the *oil* to Provincial ports advanced. The trade in *beans* has relapsed and exports to foreign countries fell from 24,647 tons to 17,446 tons. The European market was poor and Japan took the largest amounts. Reports of the presence of prussic (cyan-hydric) acid in the beans has prejudiced the trade with European countries and the French Government have prohibited the sale for food of beans and peas from Burma, thus closing one of the trade's best markets. The exports of *beans* to Indian ports were normal. The exports of *rubber* show an advance, but those of *cutch* fell, amounting only to 4,547 tons with a value of Rs. 14·70 lakhs. Within the last

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ten years this trade has declined considerably, being apparently unable to meet the competition of the synthetic article. The exports of *lac* increased slightly. The output of *pig-lead* further declined, but the exports of *wolfram* increased by 298 tons to 1,754 tons valued at Rs 24·16 lakhs. Nearly two-thirds of the total shipments were made from Tavoy, and more than half the shipments as against only a quarter in 1911-12 went to Germany. The quantity of *jadestone* exported advanced from 944 cwts. to 1,754 cwts., but the average value per cwt. fell from Rs. 288 to Rs. 131. The trade is in the hands of the Chinese and with the exception of 35 cwts., sent to Germany, the raw-material went to China to be cut and made into ornaments.

Rangoon trade: British share.

115. The United Kingdom's share of the trade of Rangoon was 56·47 per cent. of the imports and 17·03 of the exports. The British Empire supplied 64·84 per cent. of the imports and took 45·47 of the exports. The United Kingdom enjoyed 32·36 per cent. of the trade as compared with other countries, followed by Japan with 11·23 per cent. of the trade and by Germany with 10·36 per cent. The percentage of the trade enjoyed by the British Empire was 20·64. In the Empire the Straits Settlements were Burma's best customer, taking a share of 15·36 per cent. Including the United Kingdom the share of the British Empire was 53·00 per cent. as against 50·87 in 1911-12. The share of the United Kingdom rose by 2 per cent., that of the British Empire (with the United Kingdom) by 2·13 per cent., that of Japan by 2·83 per cent., and that of Germany by 1·24 per cent.

Rangoon: coasting trade.

116. Of the interportal trade Rangoon accounted for imports valued at Rs. 57·05 lakhs and for exports valued at Rs. 137·29 lakhs, out of totals of Rs. 232·65 lakhs and Rs. 207·73 lakhs respectively. Exports from Rangoon advanced by Rs. 13 lakhs and it would seem as if Rangoon on account of improved steamer services with Tavoy, Mergui and Victoria Point, is taking away some custom from Moulmein. Rangoon's total share in the foreign and coasting trade was 80·37 per cent. as against 82·34 per cent. in 1911-12.

Subordinate ports.

117. Rangoon easily outdistances all the other ports in the Province, with its share of 80·37 per cent. of the foreign and coasting trade. The shares of the other ports are:—

Moulmein	...	...	6·51	Mergui	...	...	·92
Bassein	...	...	5·61	Kyaukpyu	...	...	·10
Akyab	...	...	5·23	Victoria Point		...	·09
Tavoy	...	...	1·12	Sandoway	...	...	·05

Moulmein advanced from the second to the first place and Bassein from the third to the second, Akyab falling from the first to the third place. Moulmein exported 47,868 cubic tons of timber valued at Rs. 51·62 lakhs as against 37,276 cubic tons valued at Rs. 37·92 lakhs in 1911-12, showing an increase of 10,592 cubic tons. Its shipments of *timber* amounted to a quarter of the total of the amount exported from the Province. The exports of *rice* amounted to nearly 200,000 tons, this giving the port a share of 8 per cent. of the trade of the Province as against 5 per cent. in 1911-12. Imports, both foreign and coasting, also increased, the value of the foreign imports being the highest yet recorded. The importation of large quantities of *sugar* direct from foreign ports was the chief feature in this rise. Bassein has practically no sea-borne trade except exports of rice. It has been improving its relative position for the last few years, and in 1912-13 its share of the rice exports of the Province amounted to 14 per cent. as against 11 per cent. in 1911-12; its exports amounting to nearly 350,000 tons. Akyab has a considerable trade with India proper, but its chief importance is as an exporter of rice. Its exports of *rice*, however, during the year declined, but the drop was confined to shipments to India as India needed little help from Burma. The export trade of the ports of Tavoy, Mergui and Victoria Point is developing. Shipments of *wolfram*, *tin* and *rubber* have caused the export trade of these ports almost to double itself in five years, and the import trade has kept pace with this.

Transfrontier trade: total trade.

118. The total value of the transfrontier trade during 1912-13 was Rs. 742·65 lakhs, as against Rs. 647·81 lakhs in the previous year, the figures thus showing an increase of 15 per. cent. *Merchandise*, *timber* and *treasure* represented respectively 71, 5, and 24 per. cent. of the aggregate value. Total imports rose 12 per. cent. and total exports rose 17 per cent. The total exports during the year exceeded the imports by Rs. 9·26 lakhs thus wiping out the adverse balance of Rs. 5·06 lakhs of the previous year. The return of confidence following the restoration of order in Yünnan induced great commercial activity in Western China. The unadministered Kachin country suffered from the closing down of the jade mines and, as its rubber trees are also nearing exhaustion, the purchasing power of the Kachin was impaired. This is seen in a decline of Rs. ·51 lakh in the cattle exports from Burma, and in a fall of Rs. ·35 lakh under treasure. The rice harvest in both the Northern and Southern Shan States was poor and trade with Siam was adversely affected by epidemics of small-pox and malaria along the frontier.

Western China.

119. The total value of the trade with Western China was Rs. 128·19 lakhs as against Rs. 77·03 lakhs in 1911-12. The percentage of increase is 66. Imports increased from Rs. 34·07 lakhs to Rs. 89·09 lakhs, or 73 per. cent., and exports from Rs. 42·96 lakhs to Rs. 69·10 lakhs, or 61 per cent. Trade was so brisk that it was carried on even during the rains. The import of *silver* to buy goods was Rs. 20·79 lakhs greater than in 1911-12. The corresponding export rise was mainly in *Indian yarn* (Rs. 18·42 lakhs) and in *European piece-goods* (Rs. 6·75 lakhs). The principal articles of import were in order of value—*silver*, *raw silk*, *hides of cattle*, *living animals*, *opium*, *pickled* and *other kinds of tea*, *orpiment*, *vegetables and rice*; and of export: *Indian twist and yarn*, *European piece-goods*, *silver*, *woollen piece-goods* and *wet salted fish* (*ngapi*). The value of the *twist and yarn* was Rs. 33·20 lakhs, that of European piece-goods Rs. 19·26 lakhs, while *woollen piece-goods* and *salted fish* accounted for Rs. 3·28 lakhs and Rs. 1·62 lakh respectively. Of the imports, *silver* accounted for Rs. 36·73 lakhs, *raw silk* for Rs. 8·90 lakhs, *hides* for Rs. 3·58 lakhs and *living animals* for Rs. 3·10 lakhs.

The Northern Shan States.

120. The trade of the Northern Shan States being mainly a transport trade with Western China reflected the changed conditions in that country. There was a large expansion. Imports rose from Rs. 120·53 lakhs to Rs. 139·54 lakhs, and exports from Rs. 111·70 lakhs to Rs. 1,40·19 lakhs; the total increase in the trade amounted to 20 per cent. Imports of *hides* increased by Rs. 1·95 lakh to Rs. 4·20 lakhs and of silver by Rs. 5·60 lakhs to Rs. 20·78 lakhs. Expanding cultivation in the States themselves resulted in larger imports into Burma of *sesamum*, *oranges*, and *potatoes*, while the imports of *black tea* were in consequence of the enhanced price over Rs. 11½ lakhs more valuable. The rice harvest however was poor and this explains a decrease in the exports of European *yarn* (Rs. 3·07 lakhs) and *piece-goods* (Rs. 2·98 lakhs). Imports of *lead* fell off owing to the difficulties experienced by the Burma Mines Company, while an increase of Rs. 21·48 lakhs under the head of *iron* is to be explained by the heavier requirements of the company. The chief articles of import into Burma from the States were *tea*, *black* and *pickled*, *silver*, *lead*, *oil-seeds*, *rice*, *timber*, *living animals*, *hides*, *oranges* and *potatoes*, while the chief articles received from Burma were: *cotton piece-goods*, *iron*, *silver*, *cotton twist and yarn*, *wet salted fish* (*ngapi*), *dry fish*, *salt* and *petroleum and other oils*.

The Southern Shan States.

121. The rice harvest was much below normal in 1911-12 and to this must be attributed the slight fall of 2 per cent. in the total trade of the Southern Shan States. The imports fell from Rs. 92·23 lakhs to Rs. 83·77 lakhs, but the exports increased from Rs. 104·49 lakhs to Rs. 109·74 lakhs. The imports of *silver* into Burma fell by over Rs. 10 lakhs but the large growth in the import of *cattle* Rs. 5·91 lakhs, the demand for which continued strong in Burma allowed a rise of Rs. 4½ lakhs in the export of European piece-goods. The increase in the export of silver probably represents money required by the railway contractors operating in the neighbourhood of Kalaw. At the close of the year the railhead

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

had almost reached the 24th mile. *Living animals, silver, cigar-wrappers (thanatpet), potatoes, hides, paints and colours, garlic, oranges* and *husked rice* continued to be the chief exports, into the States, while *cotton piece-goods, silver, petroleum and other sorts of oil, betel-nuts, silk piece-goods, apparel, dry fish, salt* and *ghee* were the main imports.

Siam and Karenni.

122. The trade with Northern Siam remained practically stationary epidemics of small-pox and malaria hindering its expansion. Its total value was Rs. 69·37 lakhs as against Rs. 69·58 lakhs in 1911-12. The import of *treasure* declined, and the exports of *apparel, yarn* and *cotton and silk piece-goods* were two lakhs of rupees less in aggregate value. The import of *tea* was Rs. 1½ lakhs larger than in 1911-12. *Silver, teak,* and *cattle* were the only important articles of import into Burma while *silver, cotton piece-goods, cotton twist and yarn, silk piece-goods* and *apparel* were the chief exports.

The trade with Southern Siam received a check from rinderpest and a virulent outbreak of small-pox along the frontier, declining by 5 per cent. from a total value of Rs. 21·97 lakhs to Rs. 20·94 lakhs. The imports of *cattle* and of *silver* fell by Rs. 1¼ lakhs and Rs. ½ lakh respectively, but the trade in the imported silk piece-goods known as *polein* continued to expand. The fall in exports was under the head of *silver*. *Silver, cattle, manufactured silk piece-goods* and *precious stones*, represent the import trade, the exports being *silver, manufactured silk piece-goods, iron, apparel* and *cotton piece-goods*. The trade with Karenni increased slightly by 5 per cent., the total value being Rs. 46·21 lakhs. The imports of *teak* were Rs. 6½ lakhs higher than in 1911-12, owing to the enhanced value of timber. The import of *elephants* fell by Rs. 3 lakhs, but the trade in these animals is regulated by the needs of Forest lessees in Burma. Exports of *silver* fell by Rs. 2 lakhs.

Public Works.

Administrative and general.

123 The formation of the new Insein District necessitated a few changes in the Public Works Department. A new Division designated the Twante Canal Division with headquarters at Rangoon was formed, comprising public works in the Insein District and the Twante Canal improvement works. The Hanthawaddy Division was renamed the Syriam Division with headquarters at Rangoon; it comprises all public works in the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District and all buildings and roads in Rangoon which were previously under the Hanthawaddy Division. Excluding irrigation the total expenditure of the Department during the year was Rs. 114·59 lakhs as against Rs. 116·07 lakhs in 1911-12. An earthquake in May 1912 caused damage in Maymyo and other places, and unforeseen repairs had to be carried out. In Maymyo the cost amounted to Rs. 96,050. A comprehensive scheme was framed during the year for the general development of communications throughout the Province. This scheme, together with the proposals for financing it, has been submitted to the Government of India.

(*i*) *Roads and Buildings.*

Communications.

124. The total length of metalled roads outside Municipal boundaries and maintained by the Public Works Department and the Local authorities was at the close of the year 2,006 miles and of unmetalled roads 10,440 miles. Of this Local authorities had the care of 6 miles of metalled and of 1,341 miles of unmetalled road. The remaining 2,000 miles of metalled and 9,099 miles of unmetalled road were maintained by the Department. The increase in the length of unmetalled roads as compared with 1911-12 is mainly due to new frontier bridle-roads opened during the year. The condition of communications throughout the Province is unsatisfactory. New roads are wanted and old roads need repairing and improving, especially in the case of their bridges, which, built in the past of timber, are all showing signs of age. The expenditure on communication

during the year amounted to Rs. 11·60 lakhs, expended on original works and Rs. 30·67 lakhs on repairs. These figures show but little difference from those of the previous year. Of a special grant of Rs. 20 lakhs made by the Government of India for the improvement of the state of communications in Burma, Rs. 10½ lakhs were expended in the replacement throughout the country of timber bridges by permanent structures. The full amount of the grant was not utilized during the year, as the expansion of funds outran the supply of labour. In view of the development of the tin and wolfram mining industries and of the wide establishment of rubber plantations in the Districts of Mergui and Tavoy, extensive improvements to the Mergui-Kyaukpya, Tavoy-Pagayè and Tavoy Upper Yebyu roads were made during the year. Among other improvements and works being carried out the following may be mentioned: improvement and bridging of the Thazi-Taunggyi road: the erection of a steel truss bridge over the Thabyu *chaung* in the Thatôn District: the extension of the Seniku-Lauhkaung road to Nawchaungzup with a branch to Htawgaw and Hpimaw: the erection of a bridge over the Nayegan creek on the Akyab-Rathedaung road: and the completion of several sections of the Kyaukmè-Namhsam road in the Northern Shan States, together with a re-inforced concrete bridge at Manpwin.

Buildings—Imperial and Provincial.

125. The expenditure on Civil Imperial works was Rs. 3·50 lakhs, as against Rs. 1·82 lakh in the previous year. Work was commenced on a new Customs House in Rangoon estimated to cost Rs. 5·35 lakhs. Good progress was made with the Post Office in course of erection at Mandalay. The expenditure on Civil Provincial buildings was Rs. 23·49 lakhs, or Rs. 3·07 lakhs less than in 1911-12. Rupees 8·03 lakhs went in repairs and Rs. 15·46 lakhs were spent on original works, as against Rs. 7·59 and Rs. 18·97 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The construction of the new buildings for the Government Press in Rangoon was completed during the year. The District Court House and the Record Room for the new Insein District were completed at a cost of Rs. 2·39 lakhs. The Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory at Rangoon costing Rs. 49,487 and equipped with the latest appliances all driven by electricity was also completed. The Burma Engineering Company's property at Dawbôn was finally acquired for Rs. 1·12 lakh for the repair of Government vessels. The erection of schools, commenced in the previous year at Toungoo, Kyaiklat, Thatôn, Letpadan, Shwegyin and Yamèthin was completed, and several hostels were constructed. Additional accommodation was provided for the police in some Districts and improvements were carried out in some jails. A feature of the year was the large amount spent on acquisition of land. Land for the new Civil Station at Insein measuring 8·924 acres cost Rs. 78,661 and 200 acres of land for a new Lunatic Asylum near Rangoon, Rs. 1·70 lakh.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements and Sanitary Works.

126. The construction of new roads in Buthidaung Town was undertaken during the year. A stone masonry bridge was in course of erection over the Nampaw *chaung* in the town of Hsipaw. Town Lands Reclamation work in Rangoon was again hampered for want of funds. The reclamation work at Pyapôn was stopped as the dredging ground showed signs of exhaustion. The total expenditure incurred on the work in the civil station amounts to Rs. 48,634, and on the work in the town to Rs. 1·21 lakh. The work of protecting the foreshore at Kindat and of reclaiming the Ywathit and Nauklè quarters of Mergui Town was continued. Marine and sanitary works are mentioned elsewhere.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—Construction and surveys.

127. The railway system of the Province is managed by the Burma Railways Company, Limited. The total mileage of open line was 1,544·83 miles as against 1,528·78 in the previous year, 16·05 miles of line being opened on the Southern Shan States Railway now being built. No other line was in course of construction. The projected Ta Hapalai-Nampai Railway was further considered during the year, but no final decision was arrived at. The proposal to construct a railway from Myingyan to Natogyi was revived and the matter is under consideration. Negotiations were opened for the construction of a line from Kyangin to Petyè.

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In the Tenasserim Division the surveys of the projected lines from Ye to Yebyu, from Ye to Three Pagodas, Moulmein to Three Pagodas and from Tavoy to Amya were completed and the projects are now under consideration. Proposals for the construction of a light railway from Moulmein to Victoria Point were set on foot. The survey was completed after the close of the year and the project is being examined. The question of railway communication between India and Assam was again brought forward during the year and at the instance of the Government of India the collection of information and statistics with reference to the alternative two routes *viâ* Manipur and *viâ* the Hukong valley was set on foot. Among other works the doubling of the line from Pegu to Pyuntaza and from Pyuntaza to Nyaunglebin was in progress during the year.

Interruption and accidents.

123. Minor breaches of the line caused by floods occurred on the Sagaing-Alon and the Henzada-Kyangin lines and in the Mu valley, but no great damage was done and communications were speedily restored. Four accidents during the year resulted in injury to human beings. In one case a train ran into a cart, killing the cartman, and in another the engine capsized and three carriages were derailed in a collision with a buffalo. The first fireman was severely injured and died a day later. In the other two cases only minor injuries were inflicted. Besides these cases there were several derailments and collisions, but none were of any great importance.

Traffic and finance.

129. The number of passengers carried by the Company was 26,274,760 as against 23,966,266 in 1911-12, the figures again showing a large increase on those of the previous year. The gross earnings were Rs. 224·70 lakhs as against Rs. 211·76 lakhs and the gross working expenses Rs. 132·24 lakhs as against Rs. 130·47 lakhs. The net profits were thus Rs. 92·46 lakhs as against Rs. 81·29 in 1911-12.

On the main lines the net earnings rose by Rs. 9¾ lakhs, and the percentage of expenses to earnings fell from 61·73 to 58·89. On the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin extensions the percentage of expenses to earnings fell in the case of the former from 58·38 to 55·96 per cent. but rose in the case of the latter from 66·42 to 69·74. No surplus profits have yet been earned by either of these extensions. On the portion of the Southern Shan States Railway opened during the year the percentage of expenses to earnings was 31·52.

The capital outlay on the main line during the year was Rs. 39·51 lakhs and the capital outlay from the commencement of operations stood on the 31st March 1913 at Rs. 17,10·28 lakhs. The percentage of net receipts to capital outlay rose from 4·43 to 5·01. On the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin extensions the capital outlay during the year was Rs. 3·22 lakhs and Rs. 52,457 respectively. The total capital outlays on these two extensions were on the 31st March 1913 Rs. 154·13 lakhs and Rs. 65·43 lakhs, respectively. The percentage of net receipts to capital outlay was in the case of the former 3·98 as against 3·25 in 1911-12 and in the case of the latter 1·57 as against 1·50.

The capital outlay during the year on the Southern Shan States Railway amounted to Rs. 38·76 lakhs. This raised the total outlay up to the 31st March 1913 to Rs. 97·96 lakhs against the estimate of the total cost of construction of Rs. 160 lakhs, sanctioned for the whole length of 100 miles.

Tramways.

130. Very little progress was made during the year in the construction of the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway. The cost of construction was revised and is now estimated to be Rs. 12½ lakhs for 18½ miles. The Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway Company was formed and incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, but failed to raise the full amount of capital required. It is proceeding with the work however and has applied for certain modifications in the terms of the guarantee granted by Government.

There was further delay in the construction of the Madaya-Mandalay Light Railway. Work on it is at a standstill. Eight miles of line have been constructed, but the Company is unable to complete the construction of the remaining eight. A committee appointed by Government has examined into the position of affairs, and its report is awaited.

The Rangoon Electric Tramways carried 10,849,992 passengers during the year, an increase of 1,039,703. The running mileage was 1,469,141 as against 1,454,097. The receipts increased from Rs. 8·38 lakhs to Rs. 9·06 lakhs. The Burma Electric Tramway and Lighting Company, Limited, at Mandalay worked 6½ miles of open line. The number of passengers carried rose slightly to 2,898,947. The mileage run was 505,009 and the traffic receipts Rs. 2·29 lakhs. Both these figures show a slight improvement.

(*iii*) *Canals.*

Navigation Canals.

131. The only canals in the Province maintained out of canal dues and used solely for navigation purposes are the Pegu-Sittang Canal in the Pegu District and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal in the Thatôn District. The former is 45½ miles long and the latter 14. Other canals are firstly, the Twante Canal which in connection with the Kanaungto and Twante creeks, forms a connecting link between the Rangoon branch and the China Bakir branch of the Irrawaddy River, and is the chief waterway between Rangoon and the Delta; and secondly, the Shwetachaung Canal in the Mandalay District, which, much used for local traffic between Mandalay and Madaya, is also an irrigation work. The revenue derived from the Pegu-Sittang Canal during the year amounted to Rs. 1·63 lakh, and the expenditure to Rs. 1·16 lakh, the profit being Rs. 47,275. These figures compare unfavourably with the figures of the previous year when receipts were Rs. 1·70 lakh, charges Rs. 1·03 lakh and the profit Rs. 67,064, but paddy was held up in expectation of a rise in price, which did not come and boats were not sent through the canal for some time during the year. The export of this paddy will swell the receipts of 1913-14. The floating weed known as the Missouri hyacinth (*Hesperoscordum lacteum*), continued its invasion of the canal and caused much trouble rendering traffic in parts impossible. On the main and branch canals over Rs. 6,000 were spent in attempts to clear them from it. At Myitkyo Rs. 19,557 were spent in a protective work to prevent the Sittang River from outflanking the canal lock. The Sittang-Kyaikto Canal continued to show a loss. The receipts were Rs. 6,786, and the charges Rs. 14,016, a loss of Rs. 7,230 resulting. The loss in the previous year was Rs. 5,626, the receipts then amounting to Rs. 5,420, and the charges to Rs. 11,046. The Shwetachaung Canal yielded Rs. 4,317 in navigation fees during the year. The scheme for the improvement of the Twante Canal was proceeded with. Sums of Rs. 4·26 lakhs were expended on the acquisition of land, of Rs. 1·24 lakh on dredging operations and of Rs. 31,768 on marginal embankments. Three dredgers were also purchased in England. The total expenditure on the scheme to the end of the year inclusive of the outlay on the dredging plant amounted to Rs. 38·45 lakhs. At the end of March 1913, a little over 12,700,000 cubic feet of earthwork had been excavated, the cost per thousand cubic feet, including all charges, amounting to Rs. 8·88.

Irrigation.

Major Irrigation Works.

132. The works classed as Major Irrigation Works by the Public Works Department are the Mandalay and Shwebo Canals in the Districts of that name, the Môn Canals in the Minbu District, and the Ye-u Canal in the Shwebo District. The Môn Canals system has been but recently constructed, and the Ye-u Canal is still under construction. A well distributed rainfall and the absence of floods led to good results being shown by the two former systems.

The area irrigated from the Mandalay Canal rose from 57,766 to 61,557 acres. The revenue receipts amounted to Rs. 3·72 lakhs, and the working expenses to Rs. 1·01 lakh. The net revenue was thus Rs. 2·71 lakhs as against Rs. 2·59 lakhs in the previous year and represents a return of 5·08 per cent. on the capital outlay of Rs. 53·39 lakhs. After payment of the year's interest the return is 1·66 per cent. Some improvements in the system were effected during the year and the area actually irrigated exceeded the area estimated as the maximum area irrigable from the canal, which had been placed at 59,115 acres,

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The Shwebo Canal also increased the area irrigated from it. This rose from 123,110 to 153,056 acres, but scarcity of water in the Mu River somewhat delayed planting operations. Receipts rose from Rs. 7·16 lakhs to Rs. 7·49 lakhs, and working expenses correspondingly from Rs. 2·33 lakhs to Rs. 2·61 lakhs. The resulting net revenue was Rs. 4·88 lakhs as against Rs. 4·82 lakhs in 1911-12 thus representing a net return of 8·32 per cent. on the capital outlay of Rs. 58·65 lakhs, or, if payment of the yearly interest be taken into account, a return of 4·92 per cent.

An area of 51,900 acres was irrigated from the Môn Canals (formally opened in 1911) as against 24,967 acres in 1911-12. Much of this land, however, being brought under cultivation for the first time was entitled to an initial remission of the full water rate and land revenue. The receipts amounted to Rs. 83,372, as against *nil* in the previous year, and there was a deficit on the year's working of Rs. 52,371, the working expenses being Rs. 1·36 lakh as against Rs. 72,586. The capital outlay at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 53·94 lakhs.

The Ye-u Canal was still under construction at the end of the year. The capital outlay then was Rs. 16·68 lakhs against an estimated cost of construction of Rs. 49·64 lakhs. The progress of the work was impeded during the year by scarcity of labour.

Minor Irrigation Works.

133. Minor Irrigation Works are chiefly dependent on the local rainfall for their supply of water and their fortunes therefore vary largely with the character of the seasons. The favourable conditions that obtained in the year of report produced happy results. The total area irrigated from these works amounted to 331,487 acres and thus exceeded the area irrigated in the previous year by 71,975 acres. The revenue increased in sympathy. The working expenses on the works amounted collectively to Rs. 7·77 lakhs as against Rs. 9·24 lakhs in 1911-12, the actual maintenance charges falling by over one lakh of rupees while the aggregate net revenue was Rs. 4·90 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·73 lakh in the previous year. The revenue was also aided by the fact that no large works chargeable to revenue were undertaken during the year. These Minor Irrigation Works are nearly all in the dry zone of Upper Burma. The most important are the Zawgyi and Panlaung river systems in the Kyauksè District, the Meiktila Lake and the Nyaungyan Tank in the Meiktila District, the Man and Salin Canals in the Minbu District and the Shwetachaung Canal in the Mandalay District. Of these the Zawgyi and Panlaung systems irrigated 87,427 and 59,750 acres respectively and show a combined increase of 11,092 acres over the area irrigated in the previous year. The Meiktila Lake irrigated no less than 45,938 acres as against 9,778 in 1911-12, this total constituting a record. The Nyaungyan Tank also had the best figures on record, 23,773 acres as against 3,531. On the other hand the Man Canal in the Minbu District showed a decrease in the area irrigated, this being given at only 15,949 acres as against 25,526 in the previous year. Out of this decrease 8,764 acres are being made over to the Môn Canals system, as being really irrigated from that system. The Man Canal system is said to need remodelling and the matter is receiving attention. The Salin Canal also showed a decrease in the area irrigated from 27,327 to 23,338 acres. From the Shwetachaung Canal an area of 17,229 acres was irrigated as against 13,592 acres. A great number of these minor works are protective rather than productive of revenue. Thus although the receipts from the works in the Kyauksè District were Rs. 6·68 lakhs, with a surplus of Rs. 4·36 lakhs as against one of Rs. 3·58 lakhs in 1911-12, and the Minbu and Meiktila Districts showed surpluses of Rs. 1·65 lakh and Rs. 73,113 respectively, several Districts showed deficits. The Mandalay District had a deficit of Rs. 45,855, the Shwebo District one of Re. 47,616, and the Yamèthin District one of Rs. 89,867. Some works and improvements were carried out during the year. A new fall was constructed for one of the weirs on the Nyaungyan Tank at a cost of Rs. 30,329. The remodelling of the Teinnyetkôn weir and canal in the Yamèthin District was pushed on, and Rs. 59,438 were spent on it; the field work for the Yezin project in the Pyinmana Subdivision of the Yamèthin District was also almost completed. On the Shwetachaung Canal a sum of Rs. 71,072 was spent and in the Shwebo District Rs. 29,301 were spent on the Mu Canal.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

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Note on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma for the year 1912-13.

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Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.

Statistics of British India, Parts IV (*a*), IV (*b*), and VIII.

Provincial Settlement.

134. The receipts and expenditure of the Province are divided into three classes, Imperial, Provincial and Local, and a Provincial Settlement under which the financial relations that exist between the Imperial and Provincial Governments are laid down, regulates their assignment. This Provincial Settlement was drawn up in 1907, but its terms were subsequently modified in 1911, with a view to converting large fixed assignments which the Province then received from Imperial Revenues into shares of growing revenue. The modifications were summarised in the General Administration Report of Burma for the year 1911-12, while the Provincial Settlement of 1907 itself will be found fully described in the General Administration Report for the year 1907-08. In the year of report the contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds amounted to Rs. 98·18 lakhs as against Rs. 48·95 lakhs in the previous year, thus exceeding the net fixed contribution of Rs. 12·90 lakhs under the Settlement by Rs. 85·28 lakhs. These grants were made for the promotion of education and sanitation and the improvement of communications.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

135. The gross receipts of the Province during the year amounted to Rs. 1234·04 lakhs as against Rs. 1146·72 lakhs in 1911-12, and the gross expenditure to Rs. 853·68 lakhs as against Rs. 819·16 lakhs. Receipts classed as Imperial decreased by Rs. 10·27 lakhs from Rs. 384·41 lakhs to Rs. 374·13 lakhs; Provincial receipts rose by Rs. 92·08 lakhs to Rs. 608·32 lakhs. The receipts of District Funds decreased by Rs. 1·26 lakhs to Rs. 37·14 lakhs, but Municipal Funds show an increase of Rs. 11·96 lakhs in their receipts which amounted to Rs. 110·42 lakhs. The receipts of other funds were Rs. 104·02 lakhs, or a decrease of Rs. 5·18 lakhs. Imperial expenditure increased from Rs. 66·44 lakhs to Rs. 77·38 lakhs; Provincial fell from Rs. 528·84 lakhs to Rs. 519·58 lakhs. District Funds restricted their expenditure by nearly Rs. 2 lakhs from Rs. 35·49 lakhs to Rs. 33·50 lakhs, while Municipalities and other funds increased theirs by Rs. 15·84 lakhs and Rs. 19·01 lakhs to Rs. 106·40 lakhs and Rs. 116·83 lakhs respectively.

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These figures include the transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Funds though they do not bank with Government.

(a) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

[In this section are discussed sources of Revenue or Expenditure which are partly, as well as those which are wholly, Imperial.]

Total Imperial figures: notable variations.

136. Decreases and increases under various heads, amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 38·01 lakhs and Rs. 27·74 lakhs account for the net decrease of Rs. 10·27 lakhs in Imperial receipts. The following important decreases fall under the decrease of Rs. 38·01 lakhs—Rs. 36·77 lakhs under Land Revenue, Rs. 88,700 under Salt and Rs. 31,780 under Stamps. Larger assignments from Imperial to Provincial Revenues are responsible for the decrease under Land Revenue. If the contributions of Rs. 48·95 lakhs in the previous and Rs. 98·18 lakhs in the present year were omitted from the receipts of both years, the revenue for the year of report 1912-13 would be Rs. 168·21 lakhs as against Rs. 155·64 lakhs in 1911-12. The chief increases were Rs. 21·50 lakhs from Customs, Rs. 4·10 lakhs from Excise, and Rs. 1·33 lakhs from Irrigation. The net increase of Rs. 10·94 lakhs in Imperial expenditure was mainly due to an increased expenditure of Rs. 8·36 lakhs incurred on Irrigation, of Rs. 1·68 lakhs on Civil Public Works and of Rs. 33,075 for the reorganization of the Excise establishment of the Province. Rupees 72,960 under Scientific and other Minor Departments was the only notable item under decrease of expenditure. The expenditure in this department in the previous year was abnormal owing to the Census.

Land Revenue.

Land Revenue receipts.

137. Under the Provincial Settlement of 1907 as modified in 1911, Imperial Funds are credited with three-eighths of the receipts classified under 'Land Revenue' and Provincial Funds with five-eighths. The figures for Land Revenue are given in the financial accounts for the financial year ending the 31st March while in the Land Revenue Administration Report they are given for the agricultural year ending on the 30th June, but the bulk of the revenue is collected before the 31st March and variations in the totals are therefore slight. The gross receipts under Land Revenue as up to the 31st March 1913 amounted to Rs. 451·60 lakhs, as against Rs. 417·35 lakhs in the previous year. After the adjustment of the contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds, the amounts credited to Imperial and Provincial Funds were Rs. 70·03 lakhs and Rs. 381·56 lakhs respectively. In 1911-12 the amounts credited were respectively Rs. 106·69 lakhs and Rs. 310·66 lakhs. The expenditure under Land Revenue, which is borne entirely by Provincial Funds, amounted to Rs. 69·84 lakhs as against Rs. 68·24 lakhs. The head 'Land Revenue' includes several minor heads. Land Revenue proper will be found discussed in Chapter II. The actual collections for the year amounted to Rs. 279·80 lakhs and exceeded by some Rs. 26 lakhs the collections of the previous year. An excellent harvest combined with high prices rendered the work of collection easy. Under capitation-tax in Lower Burma collections show an increase of Rs. 80,593 from Rs. 54·47 lakhs to Rs. 55·27 lakhs. The number of persons assessed to the tax increased by some 21,000, and remissions were considerably less than in 1911-12. The work of collection was carried out without any abnormal difficulty, the effect of the prosperous agricultural year being felt in time to avert any trouble arising from the high price of rice. Most of the Districts show increases, especially the important rice-growing Districts, favourable conditions inducing migration to them. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma increased by 10,670, and the total collections of the tax, showing an increase of Rs. 72,731, amounted to Rs. 37·69 lakhs. Some of the ground lost in the previous year was therefore recovered. The work of collection was easy and remissions and outstandings were both lower than in

the previous year. The tendency to treat this tax as a poll-tax where the rate is low was again noticeable. The fishery revenue increased from Rs. 29·40 lakhs to Rs. 30·64 lakhs, thus showing an increase of Rs. 1·24 lakhs. The increase however was not uniform, the four Districts of Tharrawaddy, Henzada, Mergui and Mandalay returning increases which alone more than equalled the increase for the Province. Remissions increased by some Rs. 9,700, but the amount outstanding at the end of the year was small.

The receipts under the head 'Miscellaneous Land Revenue' amounted to Rs. 40·72 lakhs as against Rs. 36·04 lakhs in the previous year. These receipts are derived from rent of Town Lands not credited to Local Funds; from fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade, amber and other minerals; from receipts under the Village Act; from survey fees for *pattas* and other miscellaneous land revenue. The revenue derived from petroleum amounting to Rs. 33·17 lakhs was markedly higher than any previously recorded.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

138. The concluding paragraphs of Chapter IV deal with the canals and irrigation works of the Province and the revenue obtained from them during the year of report. Receipts and expenditure on Major Irrigation Works—including the works now in progress on the Twante Canal which is only used for Navigation—are wholly Imperial. Those of the other works referred to in the paragraphs above mentioned are wholly Provincial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

139. Under the Provincial Settlement receipts and expenditure under Customs are classified as Imperial. The total gross receipts in the Province during the year amounted to Rs. 191·15 lakhs as against Rs. 169·65 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 6·62 lakhs, an increase of some Rs. 11,000. The net revenue was thus Rs. 184·53 lakhs, and exceeded the revenue of the previous year by Rs. 21·39 lakhs. There was a rise in the receipts both from imports and from exports. In the case of imports it was Rs. 11·80 lakhs and of exports Rs. 9·55 lakhs. Customs.

The net customs revenue of the Rangoon Custom House was Rs. 165·25 lakhs as compared with Rs. 153·01 lakhs in the previous year, and of the subordinate ports in the Province Rs. 33·62 lakhs as against Rs. 26·04 lakhs.

140. The Local Government buys its supplies of opium from the Government of Bengal at Rs. 8-8-0 per seer. The purchase price paid to Bengal is credited to Imperial Revenues under the head 'Opium.' In the year of report the cost of purchases from Bengal amounted to Rs. 3·99 lakhs as against Rs. 3·95 lakhs in the previous year. Opium.

The opium thus purchased from Bengal is sold wholesale by the Local Government to the licensed vendors at rates fixed for the different Districts and ranging from Rs. 40 to Rs. 95. These revised rates were introduced with effect from the 1st April 1912. The profit made on these sales is treated as revenue under the head 'Excise' and the receipts and charges under this head are equally divided between Imperial and Provincial.

141. The Salt establishment was amalgamated with the permanent Excise establishment during the year and put under the control of the Excise Commissioner. Its strength was also increased. Under the new arrangements Sub-Inspectors will be placed in direct charge of groups of factories under the supervision of Inspectors. The net additional cost of the department amounts to Rs. 15,756 per annum. The total cost of the establishment during the year was Rs. 36,273 as against Rs. 24,638 in 1911, the percentage to revenue rising from 6·86 to 9·39 per cent. Salt—General.

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The receipts and expenditure under the head "Salt" are wholly Imperial. The revenue is derived from the duty on the imports of foreign salt into the Province, and from the duty on the salt manufactured locally. In the latter case the duty is collected direct on the actual output in seven Districts, and elsewhere is assessed by means of a composition duty on the vessels used in the manufacture. The rates of duty remained unchanged during the year, but as it has been found that the local industry supported with ease the imposition of a duty of 10 annas per maund, it has been decided to raise the direct duty rate and the composition rates 20 per cent. in 1914. No change was made in the law affecting salt or in the methods of the collection of duty, but a new Salt Bill for Burma was drafted during the year.

Supplies of Salt.

142. The total output of salt in the Province during the year amounted to 839,653 maunds as compared with 714,185 maunds in 1911. The Districts under direct taxation showed an increase of 130,030 maunds in which six of the seven Districts participated, while the Districts under composition duty showed a decrease of 4,562 maunds. In the former Districts higher prices and the higher taxation are said to have stimulated production, while gradual suppression and a wet season are given as reasons for the decrease in two of the latter Districts. Locally made salt supplied approximately two-sevenths of the demand of the year. Imports of foreign salt decreased by slightly over 17 per cent., the figures in maunds dropping from 2,102,895 in 1911 to 1,740,166 in 1912. The figures for 1911 were abnormal, the quantity of salt in bond at the beginning of that year being exceptionally small, and a truer basis of comparison would be afforded by an average figure taken for a number of years, as the annual variations of the figures are very considerable. Compared, for instance, with the returns for 1910, the figures for 1912 show an increase of 252,916 maunds. Imports of salt from the United Kingdom dropped from 347,160 maunds in 1911 to 241,310 maunds: those from Germany from 806,744 to 713,249, and those from other countries from 947,620 to 781,563. The figures for importation from the United Kingdom, though showing a decrease, compare favourably with those of the years 1909 and 1910. As usual German salt showed the largest consumption. The increase in consumption of Spanish salt noted in the previous year was not maintained. The quantity of foreign salt in bond at the end of the year was 204,736 maunds, or 2,076 maunds more than at the end of 1911.

The amount of duty realized from locally manufactured salt was Rs. 4·13 lakhs as against Rs. 3·93 lakhs, and from imported salt Rs. 16·87 lakhs as against Rs. 19·32 lakhs. The total revenue derived during the year from salt and salt fish was Rs. 21·61 lakhs, and of this amount locally manufactured salt accounted for 19·12 per cent. In 1911 the figures were Rs. 23·87 lakhs and 16·47 per cent. respectively.

Excise—General.

143. The Excise administration during the year was generally satisfactory, except in Rangoon.

The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 85·21 lakhs as compared with Rs. 76·87 lakhs in 1911-12, thus showing an increase of Rs. 8·34 lakhs. Of this Rs. 1·39 lakhs proceeded from liquor and Rs. 6·94 lakhs from opium, even though the consumption of the latter commodity fell.

The excise, opium and salt establishments were reorganised with effect from the 1st June 1912. They were amalgamated and placed upon a permanent footing. The Government of India have agreed that $3\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the cost of the combined establishment should be debited to the head "Salt," the receipts under which are classed as Imperial. The full sanctioned outlay on the excise establishment was not worked up to during the year, but it is surmised that it will absorb 10 per cent. of the gross receipts. The actual charges during the year amounted to Rs. 14·94 lakhs as against Rs. 14·30 lakhs in the previous year. The net receipts for the year thus amounted to Rs. $70\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs and show an increase of Rs. 7·7 lakhs.

The draft Excise Bill for Burma was again considered during the year, and its provisions are still under examination.

Excise—Opium.

144. The receipts from opium amounted to Rs. 41·21 lakhs, as against Rs. 34·26 lakhs in the previous year. The increase is largely due to the 25 per cent. advance in the wholesale prices made at the end of the previous year, as the quantity of opium issued to the licensed shops fell in the year of report by 5,424 seers, or just over 10 per cent. from 53,120 seers to 47,696 seers. The falling off in issues was very marked in the four northern Districts of the Mandalay Division where Indian opium was substituted for non-Indian opium, the result being a decline of 1,579 seers, or nearly 28 per cent. as compared with the previous year. There were also large decreases in Akyab and Rangoon. The number of registered Burman opium consumers declined during the year by 2,969 from 14,049 to 11,080. The contraband trade in opium bulks large in the excise administration of the Province. There were 2,959 persons arrested and 2,481 convicted for offences under the Opium Act as compared with 3,116 arrests and 2,584 convictions in the previous year. Arrests and convictions in Rangoon rose slightly to 476 and 413. The percentage of convictions in the Province improved from 82·9 to 83·8. The total quantity of illicit opium seized fell from 1,713 seers to 1,523 seers—of which 793 seers were seized in Rangoon. The decline in the consumption of opium, however, synchronises with an increased illicit consumption of deleterious drugs, such as morphia and cocaine. The bulk of the contraband opium consumed in this Province is brought by sea from India—531 seers of opium were seized in Rangoon on board ships during the year,—and the possibility of taking adequate action against the smugglers and the crews of ships under the existing provisions of the Sea Customs Act is under consideration.

Excise—Liquors.

145. The total imports of spirit into Burma from foreign countries during the year amounted to 263,933 gallons as compared with 230,991 gallons in 1911-12, the increase thus being 32,942 gallons. The increase was general, though the largest increase was in brandy which rose by 13,155 gallons to a total of 94,248 gallons. The consumption of brandy, gin, rum and whisky combined advanced from 182,445 to 198,139 proof gallons. Imported malt liquors show an increase of 308,990 gallons, the consumption for the year being 1,227,397 gallons. These increased importations are held to indicate general prosperity, and the figures for beer the Burman's fondness for beer as a medicine and a tonic. Several changes and restrictions were introduced during the year in order to bring the retail trade in imported liquors under closer and more effective control than hitherto.

Foreign spirit was manufactured at the Mandalay, Moulmein and Toungoo Distilleries. Issues fell from 27,508 to 25,050 gallons. Beer manufactured locally increased by 6,615 gallons to 241,449 gallons. The locally manufactured products cannot vie in popularity with the imported articles. The contract distillery system was extended during the year and 24 new shops were opened for the sale of distillery-made spirit, in pursuance of the policy determined on in the previous year. This system was thus in force in twelve Districts, being introduced into the Rangoon Town District and the Bassein District. Issues in London proof gallons increased by 30,603 from 26,788 to 57,391 gallons. Retail licenses increased from 74 to 98 and outstills by 1 to 23, but the outstill system in the Kyaukpyu and Sandoway Districts of the Arakan Division was replaced by the contract distillery system at the close of the year. Shops for the sale of *tari* (country fermented liquor) were further reduced from 718 to 712, and licenses for country fermented liquor other than *tari* again fell by 2 to 386.

Receipts from all excisable liquors amounted to Rs. 42·94 lakhs, exceeding the previous year's total by Rs. 1·22 lakhs. The increase is held to arise from the displacement of illicit liquors. Rupees 19·28 lakhs were contributed by the country beer shops, the advance of a lakh of rupees over the previous year taking place in spite of a decrease of two in the number of shops open. The duty realised under the contract distillery system increased by Rs. 1·46 lakh, from Rs. 94,783 to Rs. 2·41 lakhs. Of this the new areas of Rangoon Town and Bassein account together for Rs. 90,407, and the new area of Moulmein for Rs. 31,010. There was a decline of Rs. 1·32 lakhs in the receipts from the sale of imported liquors and locally produced spirit excised at the tariff rates, ascribed

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to the ordinary recoil from high prices, such as ruled in 1911-12, and the apprehensions raised by the new and stringent regulations for retail sales, introduced during the year. Fees from *tari* shops fell slightly from Rs. 7·42 lakhs to Rs. 7·21 lakhs.

The number of convictions under the Excise Laws rose largely in the case of country beers from 1,609 to 1,938 and slightly in the case of *tari* from 1,019 to 1,050. In the case of country spirits convictions fell by 113 to 1,633, including a decrease of 33 to 770 in cases of illicit distillation.

Ganja, Cocaine and Morphia.

146. The use of *ganja* is entirely confined to the immigrant Indian population. Seizures of this drug rose from 1,271 to 1,912 seers, but this erroneously includes some 800 seers of the hemp plant (*cannabis sativa*) seized in the Tharrawaddy District where it was being grown in the hills. The net seizures of the drug approximate to the amount seized in the previous year.

The use of cocaine is said to have spread over a considerable area and to be still spreading. Its small bulk renders detection difficult, and an international agreement to restrict the supply is suggested as the only repressive measure likely to be effective. It has already acquireda fo oting in seventeen Districts, and has established itself firmly in the villages along railway lines and steamer routes in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions. Seizures increased from 2,359 to 2,497 ounces, Rangoon claiming nearly 2,000, and convictions rose by 167 from 910 to 1,077 of which again 462 were in Rangoon. Cocaine licenses fell by one to 40. Of morphia the same tale is told. Its use is spreading and the morphia dens in Rangoon constitute a serious evil in the town. Morphia licenses fell by one to 39. In Rangoon Town 516 ounces were seized and two large seizures were made in the Pegu District.

Stamps.

147. The combined receipts under the Court-fees Act and the Stamp Act again show a decline. They amounted to Rs. 36·07 lakhs as against Rs. 36·71 lakhs in 1911-12, an increase of Rs. 94,318 under the Stamp Act being more than counterbalanced by a decrease of Rs. 1,57,979 under the Court-fees Act. The latter decrease was shared by nearly all the Districts of Lower Burma and by rather more than half the Districts of Upper Burma. The decrease in Rangoon Town was Rs. 60,841 or nearly 10 per cent. It is suggested that a good harvest facilitated the repayment of loans and thus tended to decrease litigation. The increase under the Stamp Act was contributed to by the majority of Districts in Lower Burma and by all but three Districts in Upper Burma. The total increase in Rangoon was Rs. 25,833. Depression in the money and stock markets consequent on the failures of 1911, still prevailed, but the external trade continued to expand, and land as an investment showed signs of regaining popularity, reflected in an increase of Rs. 30,962 under "impressed labels" and Rs. 9,926 under "impressed sheets." Outside Rangoon fluctuations were due to increased transactions in land, stimulated by the high price of rice during the year. But in the Magwe District the increase was caused by transactions and litigation over oil-wells.

The number of licensed vendors was raised by 35. Courts and Collectors dealt with 959 and 651 cases respectively in which documents were unstamped or insufficiently stamped as against 958 and 692 in the previous year. The amounts collected as duty and penalty on these documents was by Courts Rs. 11,067 as against Rs. 10,418, and by Collectors Rs. 38,783 as against Rs. 47,717. Fluctuations in such figures from year to year are largely accidental, windfalls appreciating or depreciating them greatly by their presence or absence. The number of prosecutions instituted again fell from 83 to 62. The number of cases in which valuations made in connection with applications for probate or letters of administration were enquired into was rather smaller than in 1911-12, and the amount of deficit Court-fees required was considerably less—the figures for Rangoon falling from Rs. 3,385 to Rs. 1,189. Fluctuations here also are accidental.

Charges on account of discount and establishment rose by Rs. 3,463 from Rs. 57,556 to Rs. 61,019.

Assessed Taxes.

148. The Income-tax Act throughout the year continued as hitherto to be completely operative only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay Town. It is applicable to the whole of Burma, but in Upper Burma the provisions of the Act are applied only to employers of industrial and commercial companies, who are resident but not permanently domiciled in Upper Burma, and to Government officials. The method of assessment and the agencies employed remained unchanged, but the agency employed for the assessment of Tamils, Gujaratis and Chinese in the various Districts of the Pegu, Irrawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions is said to have become inadequate. No alterations were made in the Act or Rules, but a few minor alterations were made in the Directions and Forms under the Act. The question of assessment to income-tax of the value of rent free-houses granted by companies to their employees was considered during the year and caused considerable commotion in the commercial community. It has since been decided to exempt them. The net yield of the tax during the year was Rs. 19·69 lakhs as against Rs. 19·41 lakhs in 1911-12. All Districts except five shared in this increase. In Tavoy the yield has grown in three years from Rs. 5,405 to Rs. 27,094. Throughout the country the year was favourable for trade and the net collections were the highest recorded. In Rangoon however the figures fell from Rs. 10·83 lakhs to Rs. 10·19 lakhs. They suffered from the failure of the Bank of Burma and other companies and from the depression in the petroleum industry, four oil companies alone accounting for a decrease of nearly Rs. 1,00,000.

There was an increase of 273 assessees or nearly 6 per cent. in the number of persons paying tax on salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by Government. The increase in the amount of the tax was however only 2 per cent., being Rs. 3·83 lakhs as against Rs. 3·76 lakhs in 1911-12. There was a decrease of Rs. 1,398 in the amount, Rs. 29,292, of the tax collected on interest on securities, although the amount of securities taxed increased by Rs. 24·71 lakhs. The phenomenon was due to the tax on the interest of a Port Trust loan being realized a day or two after the close of the year. The figures under salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by local authorities were the highest yet recorded, showing 1,028 assessees and Rs. 50,298 as the amount of the tax collected. As compared with the figures of 1911-12—909 assessees and Rs. 42,976—the increases are 13 per cent. and 17 per cent. respectively. The increase took place mainly in Rangoon Town owing to additions made to the staffs of the Municipality and the Port Trust. The figures for Rangoon Town were 668 assessees and Rs. 39,148 as against 560 assessees and Rs. 31,487 in 1911-12. The amount of the tax on salaries, etc., paid by companies and other private employers and the number of assessees were Rs. 3·37 lakhs and 5,370 respectively as against Rs. 3·23 lakhs and 5,060 respectively in 1911-12. The increases amount to 6 per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. The most noteworthy increase occurred in Tavoy where owing to the influx of employees of mining companies the number of assessees rose from 7 to 132 and the amount of the tax from Rs. 305 to Rs. 4,988. Considerable increases were also reported from Rangoon, Akyab, Bassein, Prome and Amherst. In Rangoon Town 130 firms collected the tax on behalf of their employees. The Burma Railways Company contributed under this head Rs. 54,344 levied from 855 assessees. The tax was assessed on the profits of 69 companies as against 65 in the previous year, but the amount of the tax fell 26 per cent. from Rs. 4·02 lakhs to Rs. 2·96 lakhs. The clue to this fall is afforded by the figures for Rangoon Town. There during the year 178 companies were brought on to the register with an original demand of Rs. 2·88 lakhs as compared with 158 companies and Rs. 3·96 lakhs in the previous year. The failure of several firms and the shrinkage in the profits of the leading oil companies are chiefly responsible for the fall of Rs. 1·07 lakhs. Sixty-four companies were exempted on production of certificates of payment of the tax in India, 56 declared no assessable income and two on objection were granted remissions. The final net demand was Rs. 2·88 lakhs for realization from 58 companies as against Rs. 3·95 lakhs from 53 companies in 1911-12. Under other sources of income the number of assessees was 13,706 as against 12,716 and the amount of the tax increased from Rs. 7·65 lakhs to Rs. 8·67 lakhs. The percentages of increase are approximately 8 and 13 per cent. respectively. These figures are the largest since 1903, when Rs. 1,000 was fixed as the

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minimum limit of taxable income. Trade flourished in the Districts throughout the year and eight Districts report a double-figure-percentage of increase in the amount of the tax levied and the number of assessees. In Tavoy assessees increased by 40 per cent. and the amount of tax by 151 per cent. The harvest was a good one and the mining industry continued to develop. In Prome the amount of the tax rose 55 per cent., owing, it is reported, to the high price of paddy prevailing in 1911-12 and at the beginning of 1912-13. There was on the other hand a decrease in Insein, attributed to the decline of the brick-making industry, but a comparison of the figures is difficult owing to the remodelling of the three Districts of Hanthawaddy, Pegu and Insein. Revision of assessments by Collectors and Commissioners caused the original demand of Rs. 10·33 lakhs payable by 15,457 assessees to fall to Rs. 8·80 lakhs payable by 13,928 assessees. Refunds rose from Rs. 10,771 to Rs. 17,515. The outstanding balance at the end of the year was Rs. 11,922 or Rs. 5,826 less than the sum outstanding at the end of the previous year. The tax was collected without difficulty, the number of warrants issued in the whole Province increasing by 12 only.

The total expenditure incurred in the assessment and collection of the tax was Rs. 49,981, being an increase of Rs. 3,709 or 8 per cent. over the figures for 1911-12. Of this increase Rangoon was responsible for Rs. 3,213. The percentage of expenditure to total collections was 3·16 approximately as compared with 2·97 per cent. in the previous year. This percentage is the highest since the year 1903-04.

(*b*) *REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.*

Provincial Receipts and Expenditure.

Provincial receipts.

149. The net Provincial receipts rose by Rs. 92·08 lakhs to Rs. 608·32 lakhs. The gross increase in receipts was Rs. 92·53 lakhs, of which '*Land Revenue*' accounted for Rs. 71·02 lakhs, *Forests* for Rs. 10·40 lakhs, *Excise* for Rs. 4·10 lakhs, *Police* for Rs. 2·19 lakhs, *Irrigation* (*Minor Works and Navigation*) for Rs. 1·66 lakhs, and *Law and Justice* (*Courts of Law*) for Rs. 96,967. Other variations are unimportant, though mention might be made of Rs. 19,707 under *Assessed taxes*, Rs. 23,668 under *Registration*, Rs. 12,857 under *Ports and Pilotage*, Rs. 22,198 under *Education*, Rs. 9,814 under *Medical* and Rs. 45,123 under *Miscellaneous*. These increases and variations are discussed in the paragraphs of this Report pertaining to the subjects, but under *Land Revenue* may be noted the larger contributions from Imperial to Provincial Revenues that were made during the year amounting to Rs. 98·18 lakhs as against Rs. 48·95 lakhs in the previous year. It must be remembered that the amounts of the Provincial receipts given in this paragraph are the amounts arrived at after division, where division is necessary under the Provincial Settlement, between Imperial and Provincial Funds. The gross decrease in receipts was only Rs. 45,117 and of this *Stamps* accounted for Rs. 31,780.

The chief sources of revenue of the Province were thus the Land taxes, which produced Rs. 381·68 lakhs, or if the contributions from Imperial Funds be excluded, Rs. 283·50 lakhs; the Excise taxes yielding Rs. 40·58 lakhs, the Forests yielding Rs. 110·08 lakhs and Irrigation works yielding Rs. 14·41 lakhs.

Provincial expenditure.

150. Provincial expenditure fell from Rs. 528·84 lakhs to Rs. 519·58 lakhs showing a net decrease of Rs. 9·26 lakhs. The gross decrease was Rs. 26·41 lakhs. Expenditure on *Public Works* fell by Rs. 19·04 lakhs, and on *Irrigation* by Rs. 1·41 lakhs. There was a saving of Rs. 3·94 lakhs on *General Administration* charges, and *Forests* took Rs. 1·00 lakh less. There was also a saving of about one lakh of rupees on *Miscellaneous* charges. On the other hand expenditure increased by Rs. 4·88 lakhs under the head '*Political*,' owing to operations on the North-Eastern frontier, while *Education*, *Police*, *Jails*, and *Land Revenue* took Rs. 3·23 lakhs, Rs. 2·48 lakhs, Rs. 2·06 lakhs and Rs. 1·60 lakhs more respectively. The increases under Land Revenue and Police however are the

corollary of the increase in the receipts under these heads. Substantial increases in expenditure are also shown under the heads of *Law and Justice* (*Courts of Law*), *Ports and Pilotage*, *Superannuation Allowances and Pensions* and *Excise*. The total gross increase was Rs. 17·15 lakhs. CHAP. V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

The most costly head of expenditure during the year was *Police*. The expenditure incurred on this department was Rs. 129·24 lakhs. *Civil Works* (*Public Works Department*) absorbed Rs. 82·98 lakhs, while *Medical Services* took Rs. 21·91 lakhs, and *Education* Rs. 23·45 lakhs. *Land Revenue* accounted for Rs. 69·84 lakhs and *Excise* for Rs. 12·59 lakhs. The expenditure under *Law and Justice* (*Courts of Law*) was Rs. 48·24 lakhs and *General Administration* charges amounted to Rs. 20·88 lakhs.

151. The Forest Department Report deals with the year ending on the 30th June 1913 and the figures of revenue and expenditure given in it differ therefore from those compiled in the Financial Department. The gross revenue of the Forest Department for the year ending June 1913 amounted to Rs. 115·76 lakhs or Rs. 21·46 lakhs more than in the previous year. The increase in revenue is accounted for principally by the increased quantity of forest produce removed by purchasers during the year. A sum of Rs. 6·83 lakhs was also received in payment of the instalments payable in 1911-12 and 1912-13 due on the sale of the lease of the Government Rubber plantations at Mergui. The expenditure during the year fell from Rs. 41·69 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. 40·47 lakhs, expenditure on conservancy and works being Rs. 2,36,003 less and on establishment Rs. 1,13,375 more than last year. The net revenue was Rs. 75·30 lakhs or an increase of Rs. 22·7 lakhs over the previous year's figures and the percentage of net to gross revenue rose during the year from 56 to 65, owing to the enforced curtailment of expenditure, brought about by the state of the Provincial finances. Forests.

Local Funds.

152. A District Cess Fund is maintained by each District in Lower Burma. One was opened during the year for the new Insein District. These funds derive their income from a 10 per cent. cess on the collection of ordinary Land Revenue, license-fees on ferries, slaughter-houses, and markets and from other receipts from rural areas. The total receipts during the year were Rs. 30·97 lakhs, as against Rs. 31·22 lakhs in 1911-12, the net decrease for the year being Rs. 25,136. The largest gross decrease, Rs. 1·99 lakhs, falls under the head *Miscellaneous*. This head includes contributions sanctioned by Government from one District Cess Fund to another to meet temporary overdrafts and their repayment. In the year of report the amount of these transactions, including a sum of Rs. 57,854 transferred from the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) and Pegu District Cess Funds to form the opening balance of the newly-created Insein District, amounted to Rs. 66,354 as against Rs. 2·84 lakhs in 1911-12. If both these figures were excluded from the totals of both years the revenue for 1912-13 would show a net increase of Rs. 1·93 lakhs. This increase is largely due to an increase of Rs. 1·49 lakhs in the receipts under *Provincial Rates* mainly due to the improvement in the cess on land revenue collected. There were further increases under *Education* due to larger contributions from Provincial Revenues, and the receipts from ferries, and slaughter-houses also improved. Expenditure decreased by Rs. 2·72 lakhs to Rs. 26·45 lakhs, but if, as already explained, the figures under *Miscelloneous* are excluded, the actual net decrease in expenditure would only be Rs. 53,807. Decreases occurred chiefly under *Miscellaneous*, and *Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers* and *Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers*, but were counterbalanced by increases under *Education* and *Minor Works and Navigation in charge of Public Works Officers*. All these funds were solvent on the 31st March 1913, but the Hanthawaddy, Sandoway, Akyab, Insein and Amherst Districts temporarily overdrew the balances at their credit in these funds during the year. District Cess Funds.

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District Funds.

153. In Upper Burma each District maintains a District Fund, to which are credited the receipts from various local sources, such as markets, ferries and slaughter-houses. They are also supported by contributions from Provincial Revenues. They differ from the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma in that they do not derive any of their supplies from a cess on the collection of Land Revenue. Their total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 6·17 lakhs and the total expenditure to Rs. 7·04 lakhs. The opening balance of the year amounted to Rs. 3·96 lakhs and the closing balance to Rs. 3·09 lakhs. Receipts decreased by Rs. 1·01 lakhs, but they were not swollen as in former years by a contribution of Rs. 1½ lakhs from Provincial Revenues towards Public Works. The net increase in expenditure was Rs. 72,156, the expenditure under Civil Works accounting for it. At the close of the year the Bhamo, Myitkyina and Magwe District Funds closed with deficit balances, but contributions to cover the overdrafts were subsequently sanctioned. All the other funds were solvent at the end of the year.

Other Funds.

154. Other local funds comprise the Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Educational Syndicate, Rangoon Police Reward and Steam-boiler Inspection Funds.

There were, as in the previous year, seven Cantonment Funds. Their total income, excluding debt accounts and opening balances, was Rs. 2·22 lakhs and the total expenditure Rs. 1·72 lakhs. Both income and expenditure show increases, but the increase in income amounting to Rs. 28,988 was considerably greater than the increase in expenditure which only amounted to Rs. 1,166. With the exception of Rangoon and Mandalay, the amounts in these funds are small. They were all solvent at the end of the year, but in the cases of Meiktila and Maymyo expenditure exceeded income—the excess being met from the opening balances.

The total number of Town Funds now stands at 18, Thôngwa lengthening the list during the year. The funds are all solvent. Excluding the new Thôngwa Town Fund their income and expenditure was almost stationary, receipts amounting to Rs. 5·87 lakhs, both in 1911-12 and 1912-13 and expenditure to Rs. 5·17 lakhs as against Rs. 5·12 lakhs.

Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust Fund there were six Port Funds. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 4·36 lakhs as against Rs. 4·23 lakhs in the previous year and the total expenditure to Rs. 4·15 lakhs as against Rs. 4·31 lakhs. Moulmein, Tavoy and Bassein are indebted to Government, the total being Rs. 1·57 lakhs. All the funds are solvent. The four Pilot Funds of Rangoon, Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein showed credit balances at the end of the year. The Rangoon Police Reward Fund gives to one portion of the force for good conduct what it takes from another portion of the force for bad conduct. It received and distributed just over Rs. 500 during the year. The income of the Educational Syndicate Fund was Rs. 53,517, of which Rs. 5,500 and Rs. 500 were contributed by Government and the Rangoon Municipality, respectively, towards the maintenance of the Bernard Free Library. The balance was derived from examination fees. The closing balance fell by Rs. 3,888 to Rs. 21,296. The receipts of the Steam-boiler Inspection Fund rose from Rs. 67,000 to Rs. 77,844, and the expenditure from Rs. 47,332 to Rs. 52,914.

Road and Education Cesses.

155. In Lower Burma contributions to education and local public works are made by the District Cess Funds, already dealt with in paragraph 152. No special cesses for these purposes are levied in the Province.

Municipal Revenues.

Rangoon Municipality.

156. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly one lakh of rupees from Rs. 40,65,230 to Rs. 41,61,477, while the ordinary expenditure showed an increase of over Rs. 2½ lakhs on last year's total, the figures being respec-

tively Rs. 39·19 lakhs and Rs. 36·58 lakhs. The increase in income is due, under rates and taxes, to the revision of assessments on mills and factories and the assessment of new properties which yielded roughly Rs. 70,000 more than in 1911-12, and to the growth of revenue from miscellaneous sources, such as markets, pawnshops, wash-houses and investments of a growing sinking fund. The increase in expenditure is accounted for by several items. An increase of Rs. 97,000 under general administration charges was mainly due to a sum of Rs. 82,000 being debited to revenue, as a portion of the cost of the acquisition of land for the new Municipal Offices. Under water-supply the increase of Rs. 74,000 was due principally to the cost of the maintenance of the new pumping station at Yegu. Conservancy cost Rs. 87,000 more, owing to large purchases of stock and the entertainment of an increased establishment. Improvements to roads led to an increased expenditure of Rs. 1·28 lakhs, while drainage, markets, slaughter-houses, arboriculture, and public instruction were all responsible for increases more or less great. Including loans, advances and deposits but excluding the opening balance of Rs. 27·40 lakhs, the total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 60·57 lakhs, as compared with a gross income of Rs. 49·80 lakhs in the previous year. The gross expenditure for the year was Rs. 59·77 lakhs, as against Rs. 43·32 lakhs. Two loans amounting to Rs. 7·91 lakhs and bearing interest at 4 per cent. were raised during the year to finance the acquisition of land costing Rs. 5·66 lakhs for the new Municipal Offices, the extension of sewers in Strand Road and additions and improvements to bullock depôts. The average rate of the accepted tenders was 97·9 and 98·16 per cent. At the beginning of the year the total of the loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 191·34 lakhs, which included Rs. 60·50 lakhs on account of loans for reclamation works. At the end of the year the indebtedness of the Municipality amounted to Rs. 198·68 lakhs. The debt charges for the year amounted to Rs. 14·16 lakhs and formed no inconsiderable part of the expenditure. Securities in the various sinking funds on the 31st March 1913 amounted to Rs. 28·78 lakhs. The closing balance of the Municipality was Rs. 28·20 lakhs, of which a sum of Rs. 11·29 lakhs represented unexpended loans. The Reclamation Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 8·62 lakhs. The income during the year, including an advance from the Municipal Fund of Rs. 65,321, was Rs. 5·54 lakhs. The expenditure was mainly composed of Rs. 2·91 lakhs on works and Rs. 4·38 lakhs for loan charges, and amounted to Rs. 6·63 lakhs. The fund had a closing balance of Rs. 7·54 lakhs. The charges for the service of the loans almost swallow up all the receipts. The lighting-tax fund closed the year with a debit balance of Rs. 1·62 lakhs. The water-tax and the scavenging-tax funds also both had debit balances of Rs. 31·78 lakhs and Rs. 29·12 lakhs respectively. The Municipal assignment to the school fund for the year was Rs. 2·14 lakhs and the fund at the end of the year had a credit balance of Rs. 80,313.

157. Exclusive of opening balances amounting to Rs. 10·97 lakhs, the total income of Municipalities in the Province (excepting Rangoon) was Rs. 43·88 lakhs as compared with Rs. 40·64 lakhs in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 39·26 lakhs as against Rs. 40·52 lakhs, and the closing balance was Rs. 13·70 lakhs. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 16·73 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 15·99 lakhs. The total revenue from other sources amounted to Rs. 18·55 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 17·57 lakhs in the previous year. Other Municipalities.

The total of grants and contributions from Government rose from Rs. 6·32 lakhs to Rs. 7·57 lakhs. Of the special non-recurring grant of Rs. 7 lakhs for urban sanitary improvements received from the Government of India in 1911, Rs. 2 lakhs more were expended during the year, leaving a balance still unspent of Rs. 3·49 lakhs. Rupees 50,000 were spent out of the similar non-recurring grant of Rs. 4 lakhs sanctioned in 1912, and Rs. 2·51 lakhs out of the recurring grant of Rs. 3 lakhs for 1912-13. The balances of these grants carried forward to 1913-14 and thus available for future works amounted to Rs. 7·04 lakhs.

General Administration and collection charges rose from Rs. 3·70 lakhs to Rs. 3·98 lakhs. Expenditure on public safety rose from Rs. 2·49 lakhs to

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Rs. 2·58 lakhs. Conservancy cost Rs. 7·56 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·44 lakhs, and hospitals and dispensaries Rs. 5·64 lakhs as against Rs. 6·03 lakhs in the preceding year. Markets and slaughter-houses account for Rs. 3·29 lakhs as against Rs. 3·98 lakhs, while Rs. 5·11 lakhs were expended on roads as against Rs. 4·03 lakhs. This outlay on roads represents nearly the whole of the expenditure on public works. Expenditure on Public Instruction increased slightly from Rs. 1·62 lakhs to Rs. 1·69 lakhs.

No loans were raised by any of the Municipalities during the year. Their indebtedness to Government on the 31st March 1913 stood at Rs. 10·47 lakhs as against Rs. 11·06 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The charges for the service of these loans amounted to Rs. 1·35 lakhs, being slightly in excess of the amount in 1911-12.

Other Funds.

158. There is one Trust Fund, that of the Official Assignee. There are four Educational Endowment Funds—the Jardine, Maung Ohn Ghine, Renoung and Copleston Funds. These funds do not bank with Government and their accounts do not therefore appear in the Government books.

Paper Currency.

159. The average total or gross circulation of notes in 1912-13 was Rs. 532·90 lakhs, an advance of Rs. 119·50 lakhs, or 28·9 per cent. over the previous year. At the end of April 1912 the gross circulation was Rs. 478·61 lakhs. It fell to a minimum of Rs. 434·09 lakhs in November 1912 and rose to a maximum of Rs. 684·97 lakhs at the end of February 1913.

To determine the active or net circulation, 10,000-rupee notes are excluded from the gross circulation. The average net circulation of notes for the year was Rs. 458·82 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 103·21 lakhs, or 29 per cent. over that of 1911-12. This large increase is due partly to the universalization of notes and partly to the popular appreciation of the advantage of a paper currency. This growth in circulation was almost wholly due to the increased circulation of notes of the denominations of 10 rupees and 100 rupees. The circulation of these notes increased approximately in value by Rs. 78·37 lakhs and Rs. 22·01 lakhs respectively and they supplied 51·61 and 44·31 per cent. of the total volume of currency. The circulation of the 10-rupee note outstripped for the first time the circulation of the 100-rupee note. The actual value of the circulation of the former in the year of report was 49·4 per cent. greater than in 1911-12; it shows an increase of 7 per cent. over the previous year in the proportion it bears to the total circulation, while the proportion of the 100-rupee note decreased by 6½ per cent. This decline of the 100-rupee note, however, is merely comparative and not absolute, as the actual increase of over Rs. 22 lakhs in the value of this year's circulation of 100-rupee notes as compared with that of the previous year, shows.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

References:–

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1912.
Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries of Burma for the year 1912.
Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1912-13.
Note on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the year 1912.
Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1912-13.
Statistics of British India, Part V.

Births and Deaths.

Area under registration and total population.

160. The area under registration remained unchanged during the year of report. The revised figure is 111,657·55 square miles. The figures for the population returned as under registration in 1911 have been subjected to revision and a reduction made in the registered population of 22,740. The population subject to registration is now 9,855,853, consisting of 5,042,279 males and 4,813,574 females, of whom 8,758,056 occupy rural, and 1,097,797 urban, areas. The natural increase of this population by excess of births over deaths was 50,165. Births exceeded deaths in rural areas by 64,824, but in towns the deaths were 14,659 in excess of births.

Number of births and deaths.

161. The number of births recorded in the area under registration in 1912 was 316,654 as against 322,456 in 1911, a decrease of 5,802. The birth-rates *per mille* of population for the year were: for the whole Province 32·13, for Lower Burma 31·68 and for Upper Burma 32·96, as against 32·64, 31·44 and 34·85 respectively in 1911. The birth-rates for rural and urban areas were: Provincial, rural 32·92, urban 25·78; Lower Burma, rural 32·93, urban 22·95; and Upper Burma, rural 32·91, urban 33·44. The relatively high birth-rates for Upper Burma towns as contrasted with those for Lower Burma towns are partly due to the disparity of the sexes. In Lower Burma the larger towns are thronged with male coolies, many of whom are of alien birth and have left their womenkind in India or elsewhere, while in many respects social conditions in Upper Burma towns approximate to those obtaining in rural villages where the females are somewhat in excess of males. In some cases doubt has been thrown on the returns. There were 107 males born to every 100 females. The birth-rate for the whole Province is 5·09 *per mille* above the death-rate, exceeding the latter in all but the Rangoon Town, Prome, Mandalay, Minbu and Kyauksè Districts. In 1911 the excess of the birth-rate over the death-rate was 7·57 *per mille*. The Provincial death-rate was 27·04, that for Lower Burma 26·00 and that for Upper Burma 28·95, as against 25·07, 23·99 and 27·07 *per mille* of population in 1911. The total deaths in the registered area amounted to 266,489 as against 247,682 in 1911. The actual increase in the number of deaths was 18,807 or 1·91 *per mille* of the census population—but if calculated on the estimated population for the middle of 1912, which allows for an increase of about 150,000 persons above the census figures, the increase of the death ratio is only 1·36 *per mille* over that of 1911. The rural death-rate for Lower Burma was 24·28 and for Upper Burma 27·54, and the urban death-rate 37·23 and 44·05, respectively. Infant deaths registered in 1912 amounted in the aggregate to 72,245, of which 40,219 were males and 32,026 females. The infantile death-rate for the whole Province was 228·15 as against 221·87 in 1911, or a rise of 6·28 *per mille* of infants born. The rural infantile death-rate for the whole Province was 217·79, and the urban 333·94. Both rural and urban infantile death-rates were lower in Lower than in Upper Burma. Taking the average for the year, the price of rice in 1912 was very much higher in all the Upper Burma Districts, and higher in all the Districts of Lower Burma with the exception of Kyaukpyu and Amherst than in 1911. But although the death-rate was higher generally in the Districts affected by scarcity of provisions no direct connection can be traced between the price of food and the death-rate. In the Districts where the death-rate was particularly high during the year, the rise

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was found to be due mainly to the prevalence of epidemic malaria as in Minbu or cholera and small-pox as in Prome.

Causes of death.

162. The cause of death was recorded as under :—

	1912.	1911.
Cholera	7,186	4,191
Small-pox	7,959	6,004
Plague	3,014	6,060
Fevers	85,967	76,142
Dysentery and diarrhœa	11,711	10,619
Respiratory diseases	7,747	7,590
Suicide	158	163
Wounding or accident	1,622	1,571
Snake-bite or killed by wild beasts	1,633	2,036
All other causes	139,492	133,306
Total ...	266,489	247,682

Deaths from cholera thus increased by close on 3,000. All the Districts of Lower Burma were affected with the exception of Kyaukpyu, Sandoway, Tavoy and Mergui. The Lower Burma death-rate was ·94 against ·90, the average of the previous five years. Deaths from this cause occurred throughout the year. Upper Burma was more lightly affected, the death-rate being ·34 against an average for the previous five years of ·79.

The increase in the deaths from small-pox is nearly 2,000. Both Upper and Lower Burma suffered from epidemics of it throughout the year. Malarial fever is always a constant cause of death, but a particularly virulent outbreak of malarial fever occurred in the Minbu District during the year: consequent, it is surmised, on the development of an elaborate system of irrigation in that District. The abnormal mortality escaped notice for some time, and remedial measures were thus somewhat delayed. The situation, when realised, was vigorously dealt with and the outbreak stamped out. There was a welcome decrease in the mortality from plague in the Province. The death-rate fell from ·61 in 1911 to ·31—the average of the last five years being ·84. The actual number of deaths fell by a little more than 50 per cent. Lower Burma returned 1,342 fewer deaths and Upper Burma 1,704. The death-rate from this disease fell in Upper Burma from ·62 in 1911 to ·13.

An important change of policy was decided on during the year. It was resolved to discontinue the rat drives which, though attended with good results, admittedly dislocated trade and caused inconvenience and loss to the public, and to combat plague directly by inoculation and evacuation and indirectly by raising the general level of sanitation. The Divisional Plague Scheme was therefore abandoned and the subordinate staff posted to general epidemic and sanitary duty in some Districts. Sanitation in the Province will no doubt improve as the education of the people improves; pressure can be brought to bear, if necessary, by action under the Village and Municipal Acts.

Issues of quinine.

163. The issue of quinine sulphate for the manufacture of tablets containing five grains and one grain respectively was 1,696 lbs. against 3,847 lbs. in 1911. The total number of five-grain tablets manufactured was 1,586,250 against 3,762,854 and of one-grain tablets 6,785,966 against 8,466,440. The indents for quinine tablets received at the Rangoon Jail in 1912 were in excess of those received in 1911. Altogether 2,878,128 five-grain and 5,638,000 one-grain tablets were issued by the jail to District Treasuries and Political Officers and to the Burma Railways during the year. On the whole there are indications of the growth of a demand among the people of the Province for quinine, and greater efforts have been made by the administrative officers of most Districts to popularize its use.

Emigration and Immigration.

164. The number of immigrants recorded at the ports of Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Rangoon, Moulmein, Tavoy and Mergui was 327,582 against 368,383 in 1911, a decrease of 40,801 persons. No records were maintained at the port of Bassein.

The total of emigrants from the Province was 331,520 against 311,574 in 1911, an increase of 19,946. The majority of these immigrants and emigrants passed through the port of Rangoon which returned 256,985 inward and 240,917 outward passengers for the year 1912, against 289,445 and 221,981 respectively in 1911. CHAP. VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

Medical Relief.

165. Six new institutions were opened and five closed during the year 1912. At the end of the year the total number of hospitals and dispensaries was 265. Hospitals and dispensaries.

166. The total number of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries aggregated 1,567,009 as compared with 1,469,039 in 1911. The daily average attendance among out-door patients increased from 7,450 in 1911 to 8,047 in 1912. The chief diseases treated in the order of prevalence were :—(i) All other diseases of the digestive system, 321,614; (ii) Malaria, 239,939; (iii) Other diseases of the skin, 213,147; (iv) Ulcers, 174,478; (v) All diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia and tubercle of the lungs, 122,836; (vi) Injuries (General and Local), 120,001; (vii) Diseases of the eye, 109,900; (viii) Dyspepsia, 79,182; (ix) Rheumatic fever and rheumatism, 45,467; and (x) Diseases of the ear, 38,946. Four hundred cases of cholera, 264 of plague and 943 of small-pox were also treated at the hospitals, as against 246, 492 and 1,211 cases, respectively, in the previous year. An outbreak of cholera in Bassein accounted for 102 cases. There were 4,263 deaths among the in-door patients treated in the year. The mortality, which was 7·12 per cent. of the total treated, compared favourably with 7·42 per cent. in the previous year. The Provincial ratio percentage of the total treated in the case of the Burmese community has risen from 53·87 in 1911 to 54·03. Attendance and treatment.

The Rangoon General Hospital is now very nearly fully equipped and furnished. The daily average number seeking out-door treatment at this hospital has reached 519, an increase of 86 over that of last year. In-door accommodation for patients is proving insufficient, and a public infirmary for chronic and incurable cases is needed.

There was a large increase among the Burmese women attending the hospital. The total number of operations performed was 46,618, showing an increase of 3,502 over that of the previous year. In Rangoon the most notable feature was an increase of 52 operations on the eye, while the number of abdominal operations alone rose to 446.

167. Medical expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 16,18,927 during the year, showing an increase of Rs. 1,62,904 over that of the previous year. This is accounted for by a general increase under all heads of expenditure, the construction of a new hospital at Syriam and of a dispensary at Kanaung and the revision of the Rangoon General Hospital Establishment. General.

The cadre of the Indian Medical Service remained the same throughout the year. The number of Uncovenanted Officers, Military and Civil Assistant Surgeons in independent charge of Civil Stations remained at 22 as in the previous year. The revised rates of pay of Civil Assistant Surgeons came into effect on the 1st March 1912. Sanction was accorded to the increase of the cadre of the Civil Assistant Surgeons from 29 to 44.

Steady progress was made at the Laboratory attached to the Rangoon General Hospital: 5,403 specimens and 1,033 post-mortem examinations were attended to during the year. Seventy more cases of a new infectious disease were found in post-mortem examinations, but as the disease has not yet been traced in the living individual the clinical side of the disease still remains unknown. Under the "Results-System Midwife Scheme" 12 nurses qualified and 11 others are under training.

The number of students at the Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon, at the end of the year was 37 against 42 in the previous year. Ten students who passed their final examinations were sent to Madras for a course of practical training in midwifery.

CHAP. VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES. Lunatic Asylums.

168. The number of inmates in the Rangoon and the Minbu Asylums at the end of the year fell from 619 in 1911 to 563. The daily average strength was 593·38 as against 629·67 in 1911. The decrease is attributable to an increased mortality, this rising from 72 in 1911 to 153 owing to the appearance of cholera, dysentery and diarrhœa in an epidemic form in the Rangoon Asylum. The total expenditure of both asylums amounted to Rs. 1,44,810, the average cost per head of average strength in Rangoon increasing from Rs. 170-14-6 in 1911 to Rs. 190-9-2; and in Minbu from Rs. 119-13-9 in 1911 to Rs. 125-12-11. The dairy and manufacture accounts show net profits of Rs. 253 and Rs. 22,016 respectively.

Some progress was made during the year with the question of the construction of a new asylum for Rangoon, and a site for it was selected and acquired. The water-supply in the Rangoon Asylum continued unsatisfactory. To remedy it, the provision of a new artesian well was sanctioned.

Sanitation.

Principal works and expenditure.

169. The Provincial Sanitary Board ceased to exist during the year, and its place was taken by Divisional Sanitary Boards. Meetings of these boards were held at Mandalay, Moulmein and Syriam, where various schemes were discussed and estimates considered. A special non-recurring grant of Rs. 6,00,000 was received from the Government of India during the year, two lakhs of rupees being earmarked for the establishment of a bacteriological institute and the remaining four lakhs of rupees for expenditure on urban sanitary works. From the latter sum Rs. 2 lakhs were allotted for the completion of the water-supply scheme at Pegu, while Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 1,50,000 were respectively allotted towards the erection of a new bazaar at Paungdè and towards extensions and improvements to the old bazaar at Toungoo. Good progress was made with the Pegu bazaar improvement and Mandalay drainage schemes, towards which Rs. 1,50,000 and Rs. 4,50,000 respectively were provided from the Rs. 7 lakhs non-recurring grant received from the Government of India in 1911. But the Pegu water-supply scheme, towards which a grant of Rs. 1,00,000 was made from the same source, was delayed for want of completed estimates. An experimental 6-inch diameter tube well was sunk at Insein at a cost of Rs. 3,000. Another tube of the same dimensions is being sunk at Paungdè. A contribution of Rs. 10,000 from the Rs. 3 lakhs annually recurring grant made by the Government of India was given to the Gyobingauk Municipal Committee to meet the cost of boring a deep well. A sum of Rs. 1,500 was granted to Mergui for a similar purpose. The proportion of the income derived from Municipal, Town and District, and District Cess Funds expended on sanitary works during 1911-12 was respectively 37·49, 32·25 and 5·77 as against 38·83, 25·85 and 4·19 in 1910-11. The total expenditure of the various municipal and local funds on sanitary works was Rs. 45·01 lakhs out of a total income of Rs. 167·89 lakhs; of this Rs. 14·01 lakhs were spent on water-supply, Rs. 6·48 lakhs on drainage, Rs. 13·63 lakhs on conservancy and Rs. 10·89 lakhs on other sanitary works.

Vaccination.

Establishment.

170. The permanent establishment was increased by four vaccinators—two each in the Ma-ubin and Thatôn Districts—making a total of 272 vaccinators and 49 Native Superintendents of Vaccination in the Province. Thirteen vaccinators were either removed or dismissed from the service for neglect of duty, disobedience of orders, or falsification of returns. Native Superintendents in the Katha, Pegu and Meiktila Districts were also dismissed for falsifying accounts, abetting inoculation and other misdemeanours.

Number of operations.

171. The total number of operations performed in the Districts and towns xcluding jails and dispensaries, was 533,647, of which 416,121 were primary

operations and 117,526 re-vaccinations. As compared with the previous year the total of primary operations was 614 less, and that of operations for re-vaccination 26,786 more, the total of all operations being 26,172 in excess of the previous year's return. In 44 Municipal towns there were 26,431 successful primary operations and 1,871 successful operations for re-vaccination, these figures showing a decrease of nearly 3,000 primary operations and an increase of over 8,000 re-vaccinations. The increase in the total number of operations for re-vaccination during the year amounting to 29·52 per cent. of all operations for re-vaccination performed in the previous year is to be attributed mainly, if not entirely, to the prevalence of small-pox in epidemic form in many Districts. The Districts which returned the largest increases under this head were Sagaing (11,965), Mandalay (11,284), Shwebo (4,155), Minbu (3,980), Magwe (3,695), Thayetmyo (2,198), Pegu (1,376) and Myingyan (1,064). The percentage of success of known cases was for the whole Province in primary vaccination 96·71 and in re-vaccination 68·12, against 96·61 and 72·77 respectively in the previous year. The total number of successful operations of both classes was 459,929 against a previous five years' average of 353,723, the ratios *per mille* of population vaccinated during the year being 37·96 against 31·81—the average of the previous five years—an advance of 6·15 *per mille*.

The total number of operations performed in dispensaries was 5,968 primary and 4,737 re-vaccination, with a success ratio of 95·47 and 55·79 respectively. The total operations performed in jails was 26,864 on an average population of 16,334 against 26,439 in the previous year. The percentage of success in primary vaccination (3,391) was 86·46 and in re-vaccination (23,473) 65·22. The number of infants vaccinated in Municipal towns was 19,161, showing an excess of 1,972 over the number of infants available. This is a constantly recurring phenomenon and is differently explained: it may be due to an influx of visitors into the towns bringing infants with them or it may be due simply to faulty registration.

The totals of operations verified by Civil Surgeons and Native Superintendents of Vaccination were 78,253 and 285,190, against 69,316 and 291,043 respectively in the previous year. The amount of verification work performed in the different Districts varied greatly, the percentages ranging from 71·61 per cent. and 3,779 primary operations in the case of the Civil Surgeon, Sandoway, to ·48 per cent. and 47 operations in Prome and *nil* in Pyapôn. The average percentage of verification by Civil Surgeons was 16·45, and by Native Superintendents of Vaccination 53·23, in primary operations.

Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila.

172. Four Native Superintendents of Vaccination and 32 apprentice vaccinators were trained at the Meiktila Training School. Excepting one apprentice vaccinator all of them qualified. The cost of the Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila, was Rs. 14,005 as against Rs. 13,290 in the previous year. The increased expenditure was due to a slight increase under the head "Establishment," to the greater number of calves used, and to the increased rate of hire of these animals. Out of 477 calves inoculated with vaccine, 414 yielded lymph fit for issue. Seven hundred and sixty thousand nine hundred and twenty-four doses of glycerinated vaccine were prepared, of which 757,518 doses were issued as against 693,913 doses in the previous year. The figures for lymph prepared and issued constitute a record for the second year in succession. A special grant of Rs. 50,000 has been allotted by the Local Government for the improvement of the Vaccine Depôt.

General.

173. Inoculation is still popular in the Districts. In the Thatôn, Pyapôn and Pegu Districts outbreaks of epidemic small-pox were directly traced to it. Inoculators were prosecuted and fined in the Pegu, Magwe and Myaungmya Districts and one was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment in the Bassein District.

The total cost of the Vaccination Department for the year was Rs. 2,05,199 as against Rs. 2,00,604 in 1911-12. The average cost of each successful operation was for the Province Re. 0-7-3 as against Re. 0-7-5 in the previous year—the average for the different Districts ranging from Re. 0-2-8 in the Magwe District to Re. 1-9-8 in the Hanthawaddy (Syriam) District.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES:—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1912-13.
Statistics of British India, Parts VI and VII.

General System of Public Instruction.

See paragraphs 253 to 280 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Education.

Educational measures.

174. The question of endowing Burma with a University was advanced a step further during the year. A draft Bill was submitted to the Government of India and an assignment has been made from Imperial Funds to the extent of Rs. 8 lakhs (non-recurring) and Rs. 50,000 (recurring), in anticipation of sanction being accorded to the scheme.

An important change took place in the Anglo-Vernacular curriculum. The teaching of English reading and writing, which previously began in the fourth Standard, may now be started in the third Standard. The Arakan Division, which was formerly combined with the Irrawaddy Division, was made a separate charge under an officer of the Indian Educational Service during the year.

The special grants sanctioned by the Government of India enabled the Education Department to initiate schemes for the expansion of elementary education. It is recognized that for this purpose the number of teachers should be largely increased and with this object in view classes were opened for the training of elementary teachers. The number of Normal student stipends was increased. A corps of Government vernacular teachers was formed. Further, in order to give greater assistance to existing schools and to encourage private schools to register, the old rates of results-grants which had been reduced in 1908-09 owing to financial stringency were gradually restored. The number of salary-grants to vernacular teachers and managers was increased. Building and equipment grants were made to enable managers to improve their buildings and equipment.

The subordinate inspecting staff was increased by the addition of 9 Deputy Inspectors and 4 Sub-Inspectors.

The final introduction of the maintenance grant, which will take the place of the present results-grants in vernacular schools, was postponed for a year. Meanwhile certain schools were selected in which the new form of grant will be given a trial.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

175. The number of educational institutions of all kinds was 23,590 and the attendance 459,593, of whom 83,784 were girls. The percentage of male scholars to the male population of school-going age was 40·52 per cent. and of female scholars to the female population 9·42 per cent. The numbers for the previous year were:—institutions 23,211, and attendance 445,255, of whom 79,416 were girls. Institutions increased by 1·6 per cent. and the attendance by 3·2 per cent. Of the schools 6,662 were public, with an attendance of 282,433, and 16,928 private with 177,160 pupils.

The total expenditure on Education was Rs. 53,36,146 as compared with Rs. 47,36,641 in 1911-12, an increase of nearly Rs. 6 lakhs. Funds to the amount shown were provided from the following sources: Provincial, Rs. 22,31,575; District Cess Funds, Rs. 4,43,890; Municipal Funds, Rs. 3,87,758; school

fees, Rs. 16,53,295; and private sources, Rs. 6,19,628. Income from fees alone shows an increase of nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs. The total Provincial expenditure includes over Rs. 5⅛ lakhs spent during the year out of the Imperial grants noted below. In 1911-12 the amount so contributed and spent was Rs. 1·85 lakhs. CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

The special grants made by the Government of India during the last two years amounted to Rs. 12½ lakhs. Out of the recurring grant of Rs. 2,60,000 made in 1912-13 more than Rs. 91,000 was spent during the year. Of this Rs. 32,000 went in supplementary results-grants, and nearly Rs. 11,000 in providing additional Deputy and Sub-Inspectors of Schools; Rs. 12,000 was spent on girls' education, in providing salary-grants, normal stipends, primary scholarships and building grants; Rs. 13,000 was spent on European education, chiefly in raising the pay of teachers, in building grants, and in providing a fund for the education of poor pupils. The special recurring grant of Rs. 40,000, which was made in 1912-13, was spent on the raising of the fixed grants in Anglo-Vernacular schools, and in providing small building and equipment grants. The non-recurring grant of Rs. 8 lakhs of which Rs. 4 lakhs was made in 1911-12, and the remaining Rs. 4 lakhs in 1912-13, was spent partly by the Education Department and partly by the Public Works. The Education Department expenditure included Rs. 21,000 spent on Industrial and Technical education,—of this Rs. 9,000 was given towards the cost of the site, building and equipment of a Craft School at Akyab. The education of girls accounted for Rs. 18,000, spent in building and equipment grants; about Rs. 75,600 was spent on European schools in supplying buildings and hostels. The total spent departmentally was nearly Rs. 1,20,000. To the Public Works Department Rs 2,72,000 were made over for the construction of schools and hostels, and for work in connection with the science side of the Rangoon College. Anglo-Vernacular schools and hostels absorbed Rs. 1,50,000; Normal schools about Rs. 85,000; vernacular schools Rs. 25,000. Under the Rs 1½ lakh grant made in 1912-13 the Public Works Department spent nearly Rs. 30,000 on the construction of schools and hostels.

The direct and indirect expenditure amounted to Rs. 34·81 lakhs and Rs. 18·55 lakhs respectively, as against Rs. 31·19 lakhs and Rs. 16·17 lakhs in 1911-12. The expenditure on secondary education was slightly less in proportion to the total expenditure than it was last year, while that on primary education increased slightly. The average expenditure per head of population rose from Re. 0-6-3 to Re. 0-7-0. The average cost of educating each pupil in 'Arts Colleges' rose from Rs. 394-4-9 to Rs. 416-6-4, in secondary schools from Rs. 23-3-8 to Rs. 23-7-8 and in primary schools from Rs. 4-0-1 to Rs. 4-9-7.

176. The term 'primary school' includes European, Anglo-Vernacular and vernacular schools teaching up to the fourth standard and, for certain purposes, the primary department (Standards I to IV) of secondary schools. Public primary institutions increased from 5,316 in 1911-12 to 5,321. The increase was in the number of girls' schools. Boys' schools decreased by 31. The decrease was, however, not so great as in the previous year and this may be taken to indicate that the tide has turned and that the number of such schools will increase in future. The attendance in public primary institutions rose from 181,406 to 184,356. The expenditure on primary schools for boys including the cost of primary departments of secondary schools was Rs. 18,77,876 against Rs. 15,08,283. This cost was met as follows:—From Provincial Funds, Rs. 4,37,13); District Cess Funds, Rs. 3,38,158; Municipal Funds, Rs. 1,88,563; fees and other sources, Rs. 9,14,019. **Primary education.**

The total cost of primary education for boys and girls was approximately Rs. 21¾ lakhs. In 1911-12 the cost was about Rs. 18¾ lakhs.

177. Schools having standards higher than the fourth are classed as secondary. European schools and girls' schools are dealt with in their respective paragraphs. The number of Anglo-Vernacular Schools for boys rose from 104 to 110 and the attendance from 20,722 to 22,652. This includes the primary departments of these schools. The increase of attendance was in all four stages. Of the scholars attending Anglo-Vernacular schools 5 per cent. were in the **Secondary education.**

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

high school stage, 35·4 in the middle stage, 38·2 in the upper primary and 21·4 in the lower primary. The proportion in the upper primary stage fell by 2·1 per cent., but that in the lower primary stage increased by ·5 per cent.

The number of vernacular schools rose from 756 to 804 and the attendance from 54,795 to 59,648. There was in the high school stage an increase of one school and five pupils. Of the pupils attending vernacular secondary schools ·05 per cent. are in the High School stage, 10·9 in the middle school, 21·1 in the upper primary and 67·9 in the lower primary. The results of the examinations in secondary schools were as follows :—

	1911-12.		1912-13.	
	Number presented.	Number passed.	Number presented.	Number passed.
Anglo-Vernacular High School Final ...	104	47	169	94
Calcutta University Matriculation ...	164	134 (2 girls)	275	225 (including 8 girls).
Anglo-Vernacular Standard VII ...	1,704	802	1,847	950
Vernacular Standard IX	57	26	60	29
Vernacular Standard VII	1,392	314	1,673	305

(These figures include girls attending boys' schools.)

The expenditure on secondary education rose from Rs. 19,97,383 in 1911-12 to Rs. 22,16,782. This expenditure was met as follows :—Provincial Funds, Rs. 6,73,402 ; District Cess Funds, Rs. 1,52,481 ; Municipal Funds, Rs. 2,76,295 ; fees, Rs. 9,20,990 ; private sources, Rs. 1,93,614.

Collegiate education.

178. The number of college students continues to increase. In the Government College the average monthly number on the rolls rose from 293 to 311 and in the Baptist College, from 41 to 42. The attendance in the Law Class at the Government College was 8 as compared with 10 in 1911-12. The Government College has now been affiliated up to the B. Sc. Standard. Burman Buddhists form the majority of the College students. The subjects taken up by the students remain the same as in 1911-12. The results of the two colleges at the University Examinations were as follows :—

Examination.	1911-12.			1912-13.		
	Number presented.	Number passed.	Percentage.	Number presented.	Number passed.	Percentage.
B. A.	32	20	62·5	45	*28	62·2
B. Sc.	*Nil*	...	..	*Nil*	...	...
I. A.	139	69	49·6	113	75	66·4
I. Sc.	...	...	...	9	7	77·8

* Of these 7 obtained Second Class Honours in English, and 2 passed "with distinction."

In addition to the above, 1 private student passed the B.A. and 9 passed the I.A., against 1 and 4 respectively in the previous year.

During the year there were 10 Burma students at the Medical College, Calcutta, 3 being women; 32 students at the Royapuram Medical School, Madras; 37 at the Government Medical School, Rangoon; and 2 Government students at the Engineering College, Sibpur.

The expenditure on collegiate education rose from Rs. 1,31,695 to Rs. 1,46,988. This was met as follows :—Provincial Funds, Rs. 82,396; fees, Rs. 31,149; private sources, Rs. 33,443.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

179. There were six technical institutions, with an attendance of 421 pupils. The number of institutions remained the same as in the previous year, but the attendance increased by 33. Besides these technical institutions there are 20 classes for manual hand and eye training attached to selected vernacular schools. School gardening is also becoming popular in several Anglo-Vernacular and vernacular schools. Technical education.

The Government School of Engineering still continues to be poorly attended, the number of students further falling from 35 in 1911-12 to 33. An officer lent by the Public Works Department was put in charge and proposals for improving the school and making it attractive for Burmans are under consideration.

180. The number of Normal schools remained the same as in the previous year, twelve: five under Government and seven aided. Of these four are vernacular schools, one Anglo-Vernacular, and seven for both vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular students. There are no training schools specially for teachers of European schools. The total number of students was 494 (337 men and 157 women) as compared with 456 in the previous year. The increase is entirely among the men students, due chiefly to the opening of two classes for the training of elementary teachers. The number of certificated or trained teachers in the Province is 1,776 vernacular, 880 Anglo-Vernacular, and 150 European. The revision of the Regulations for Normal Schools was during the year under the consideration of a Sub-Committee appointed by the Educational Syndicate. The expenditure on Normal schools rose from Rs. 1,79,635 to Rs. 1,80,372. Provincial Funds provided Rs. 1,67,362; the remainder came from fees and private sources. Training schools.

181. The number of European schools increased from 29 to 32. Of these one is an industrial school and is included among technical institutions. The attendance rose from 4,039 in 1911-12 to 4,416 (2,244 boys and 2,172 girls). This number includes 621 pupils who are not Europeans or Anglo-Indians. The actual number of Europeans and Anglo-Indians attending European and Anglo-Vernacular Schools was 4,142. European schools.

During the year 6 men and 3 women passed the B.A., 4 men and 10 women the I.A., 2 men the I.Sc., 4 boys the Matriculation, 13 boys and 18 girls the European High School, and 1 boy the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final.

The total expenditure on European education exclusive of boarding fees rose from Rs. 4,18,496 to Rs. 4,31,722. Of this amount Provincial Funds contributed Rs. 1,95,680 and the remainder came from fees and private sources.

182. There were 111 public and 233 private schools for Mahomedans as against 121 public and 210 private schools in 1911-12. The attendance both in public and private schools increased, in the former from 9,626 to 9,917, in the latter from 4,927 to 5,564. Of the 15,481 Mahomedan pupils only 10,605 or about two-thirds attend purely Mahomedan schools. The number of Mahomedan girls under instruction rose from 1,775 to 1,870 in public schools and from 1,229 to 1,345 in private schools. Four Mahomedans passed the I. A. Examination, seven the Matriculation and two the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final. A Committee of Mahomedan gentlemen is now engaged in drawing up proposals for the improvement of Mahomedan education in Burma. Education of Mahomedans and special classes.

Of schools for special classes there were 1,276 public schools, as against 1,229 in 1911-12. The attendance rose from 39,887 to 42,004, the increase being chiefly among the Karens, Talaings and Shans. About two-thirds of the total number are Karens. There are said to be 865 private schools for special classes with an attendance of 11,528, but these figures are only approximate. The two Government Vernacular Chin schools at Falam and Tiddim show an increased attendance. The same is the case with the Government Vernacular School for Kachins at Sinlumkaba (Bhamo District). The Shan Chiefs' school at Taunggyi closed with 73 boys as against 88 in the previous year.

183. The number of girls under instruction in public schools rose by 4,416 from 75,909 to 80,325. During the quinquennium ending in 1911-12 the average Female education.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

increase annually was 3,449. The number of girls in private schools fell from 3,507 to 3,459. There were 691 public girls' schools (13 high, 84 middle, and 594 primary and special schools): 60,686 girls or 74·8 per cent. were attending boys' schools (public). The percentage in 1911-12 was 75·5. The distribution of girls over the stages of instruction was as follows: college 8, high 148, middle 1,654, upper primary 8,503, lower primary 69,521, special schools 491. There was an increase in every stage except the college. The number that passed examinations was as follows: B. A. 3, I. A. 10, Matriculation 8, Anglo-Vernacular High School Final 1, European High School 19.

The total expenditure on the education of girls rose from Rs. 4,25,461 to Rs. 4,67,112. This represents 9 per cent. of the total expenditure on education. This amount was provided as under:—Provincial Funds, Rs. 1,66,636; District Cess, Rs. 33,780; Municipal, Rs. 42,101; fees, Rs. 1,59,977; private sources, Rs. 64,618.

Insein Reformatory School.

184. The number of boys in the Insein Reformatory School rose from 82 at the beginning of 1912-13 to 94 at the end of the year. Steady progress in work is reported but better buildings and a larger play-ground are needed. The transfer of the Reformatory to Thazi is still under discussion.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

185. The number of publications registered during the year was 338 as against 362 in 1911 and 373 in 1910. Of these 187 were in the Burmese language and 52 in Pâli, 41 in Pâli-Burmese, 22 in English and 14 in English and Burmese. The number of publications in any other language was insignificant. The Province is polyglot. The languages represented are 11 in number, but there were 19 in the previous year. One new language, Kachin, made its appearance in print. The original works numbered 309, of which religion claimed 117 and the drama 36.

The decrease in the number of publications was general and not confined to books on any particular subject. The total number of books on religion dropped heavily, from 158 in 1911 to 130. This figure is, however, still respectable, and even a further drop would not cause apprehension. Of the 130 works, 117 are original works; and of these 39 are in Burmese and 48 in Pâli. Few works stand out, though a pamphlet in Burmese called the "Thadipè Hnozawsa," in which the author deals trenchantly with the atheistic tendencies and the ungodly ways of the modern Burman, attracted notice by the vigour of its denunciations, and a book in English entitled 'Buddha, Buddhism and Burma' by the Revd. J. McGuire and Mr. F. D. Phinney, stirred up controversy among Buddhists.

Under "drama" all the original works, 36 in number, were in the Burmese language as against 41 in 1911. The drama, if such a name can be applied to Burmese plays, is a national institution in this country and has a firm hold on the affections of the people. The plays all run on stereotyped lines; the plot deals with love and courtship. The literary value of the plays is slight.

With religion and drama the literature of the Province comes to an end and there is little enough to arrest attention in the remaining publications of the year. Works of fiction in the Burmese language increased. They numbered 12 during the year as against 2 in 1910 and 7 in 1911. There was the usual crop of grammars, readers, translations, commentaries, manuals and treatises. In the miscellaneous section a book containing letters of the Kinwun Mingyi written to his wife and to the Palace officials while he was in Europe, and which is partly the Kinwun Mingyi's own biography, might be of more than ephemeral interest. A large increase in the number of newspapers, chiefly English and Burmese, is reported, but the number of newspapers that have been withdrawn from publication is not known.

Presses, newspapers and periodicals.

186. Apart from the three Government presses, which are mentioned elsewhere, there were at the end of the year 134 presses in Burma as against 123 in 1911-12. The majority of these presses are in Rangoon and Mandalay. In the former the number rose from 51 to 58 and in the latter from 24 to 28.

Moulmein, Prome and Akyab had 11, 8 and 5 respectively. Two new presses were opened in the Amherst District and one press in the Tharrawaddy District, while two presses were closed in the Hanthawaddy District and one press in Prome. There are 54 newspapers of which 8 appear daily, 3 being in English, 2 in Burmese, 1 in English and Burmese, and 1 each in Tamil and Chinese. A newspaper in Gujarati appears twice a week and 1 in Urdu weekly. There are also newspapers in Sgau-Karen and Pwo-Karen. Periodicals number 21 and are chiefly in English and in Burmese.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 294 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Rangoon Societies.

187. There are several literary societies in Rangoon. The Literary Society, which owns a library and reading-room made additions to its library during the year, of which 27·42 per cent. were works of general literature and 72·58 per cent. works of fiction. The Rangoon Teachers' Association is supported by voluntary contributions from the Rangoon colleges and schools and by an annual subsidy of Rs. 1,200 from the Local Government. It has a large library and visitors numbered 5,288. Lectures were delivered during the year in connection with educational work in Burma. The Bernard Free Library receives an annual grant of Rs. 5,000 from Government, of Rs. 2,500 from the Educational Syndicate and of Rs. 500 from the Rangoon Municipality. The total number of books in the library at the end of the year was 9,472. There were 1,224 registered borrowers, and 7,195 books were lent out on loan. The Manuscript Department now contains 4,842 manuscripts. The copying of old and worn Talaing manuscripts for which a special assignment of Rs. 4,000 was made by Government in 1910 was continued, 56 *ingas* or palm-leaf manuscripts being transcribed. A further grant of Rs. 500 was received from Government during the year for the purpose of a search for and an inventory of Talaing manuscripts in Moulmein and the Amherst District. The risk of fire to which the library building is exposed is attracting attention. The institutes connected with the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations continued their literary activities. The recently founded Burma Research Society was not idle.

Arts and Sciences.

188. The principal artistic industries in the Province are silverwork carried on chiefly in Rangoon, Thayetmyo, Pegu and Mandalay; wood-carving in Mandalay, Rangoon and Bassein; lacquer-work at Nyaungu and Pagan in the Myingyan District; bronze-work in Pegu and Mandalay and brass-work and marble-carving in Mandalay. Burmese art is not prosperous, for the competition which cheap jewelry and fancy articles of European or cognate make have set up against the finished products of Burmese handicrafts is severe. The age is one of transition, and though an attempt is being made to stem the competition by combining art and utility in the articles produced, no very satisfactory results have as yet been achieved, as Burmese artisans lack as a rule sufficient technical knowledge to bring experiments to a successful issue. Meanwhile the system of State-aided apprenticeships introduced in 1910 under which selected apprentices are paid scholarships of Rs. 10 per mensem is working not unsatisfactorily and the local reports indicate good progress on the part of the pupils.

Three exhibitions of Art Handicrafts were held during the year. These included local exhibitions at Bassein and Mandalay of which the latter is a new venture, as well as the Annual Provincial Exhibition in Rangoon. All three were successful. The Mandalay Exhibition should have good effects in encouraging the indigenous art of that city.

The exhibits in the Provincial Exhibition in Rangoon showed a general improvement in the work of the lower grades of artisans, more particularly in the classes for silversmiths and metal statuette workers.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE :—

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1912-13.

189. Good progress was made by the Archæological Survey during the year 1912-13. The Provincial list of the more important monuments of antiquarian or archæological interest in Burma approached completion. The letter-press in connection with the architectural survey of the Palace buildings at Mandalay was put in hand and will be completed during 1913-14. Guide books for the use of visitors to Pagan and the Palace at Mandalay are under preparation. The excavation round the Eastern Petleik and Shwe-san-daw Pagodas at Pagan was continued, a number of terracotta plaques being unearthed. A monograph on the plaques is being compiled. Further excavations at Hmawza led to the discovery of two more funeral urns with inscriptions in the Pyu language. Estampages and photographs of these inscriptions have been sent to England for decipherment, and some light may now be thrown on the forgotten Pyu race or people. At any rate, as some twelve epigraphs in the Pyu language are now available for study, the Pyus may expect to be more talked about in the future than hitherto.

Action was taken during the year under the provisions of sections 20 and 23 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, VII of 1904, Pegu town and its environs being notified. Illicit excavations at Ava were detected and stopped, and the desecration of the tomb of King Mindôn, one of the monuments conserved by Government at Mandalay, led to the prosecution and conviction of the accused person.

The total expenditure on the archæological survey during the year amounted to Rs. 25,072. A contribution of Rs. 6,000 was received from Imperial Funds, while a sum of Rs. 20,000 was granted out of Provincial Funds. A sum of Rs. 1,348 which had lapsed in 1911-12 out of the grant for archæological works was re-granted.

The annual report emphasises the need of an epigraphist for the Province, and the necessity of an alteration in the terms of the archæological scholarship to render it more attractive to Burmese students. It has been decided to carry on tentative explorations and excavations in the neighbourhood of Pegu during the cold weather of 1913-14. This area teems with ruins and is rich in relics of the Talaing epoch, and the work done this year should indicate on what lines the work should proceed in the following years.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES :—

Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma for the year 1912.
Statistics of British India, Part VI.
Report on the working of the office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, for the year ending the 31st March 1913.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 297 to 300 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Ecclesiastical.

190. The erection of the Burma Memorial Church at Maymyo was commenced during the year. The cost of the building is estimated at Rs. 67,000, towards which the Local Government has made a contribution of Rs. 7,940. The Cathedral at Rangoon was provided with a tower and spire at a cost of Rs. 36,000, privately subscribed.

Stationery.

191. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, Calcutta, from the Indian mills. The cost of stationery issued to General Departments and Government Presses in Burma during the year was Rs. 72,311 and Rs. 2,72,738 respectively. As compared with the previous year the figures show decreases of Rs. 1,196 under General Departments and of Rs. 5,017 under Government Presses.

Office of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma.

192. One thousand five hundred and nineteen articles were examined in the medico-legal department as against 1,304 in the preceding year. The number of human poisoning cases examined increased by 62. The number of cases investigated for blood stains increased from 297 to 355 and the articles examined from 512 to 598. In stain cases the percentage of detection was 80·1 as against 56·83 in the previous year. In the general analytical department the number of articles examined increased from 28,135 in 1911 to 46,150. The increase was mainly due to the work done for the Excise Department under cocaine, morphia and ganja. Sixty-nine fewer samples of opium were received for examination. In the bacteriological department 821 articles were examined which, as compared with the work of last year, shows a falling off of 28 articles, accounted for by the small number of blood smears examined for the plague bacillus. Serological work and water examinations, however, increased considerably. One hundred and sixty-one samples of water and ærated waters were examined bacteriologically for purity and they were all condemned as unfit for drinking purposes. The preparation of vaccines was undertaken for the first time during the year. The new laboratory buildings were nearing completion at the close of the year.

Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing.

CHAP. IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

193. The Government Presses in the Province are three in number, *viz.*, the Central Press in Rangoon, the Jail Branch Press, also in Rangoon, and the Maymyo Branch Press. The work which is carried out at these presses is chiefly printing for Government Departments, and has been noticed in Chapter VII, *supra*, in the section entitled *Literature and the Press*. The receipts as shown in the books of the press amounted to Rs. 38,404 in the year of report against Rs. 34,008 in the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 4,29,235 against Rs. 3,94,298. Printing work to the value of about Rs. 21,000 was given out to private presses as compared with Rs. 24,000 in the preceding year. The value of the outturn of work from the Central Press was estimated at Rs. 2,99,651, from the Jail Press at Rs. 96,778 and from the Maymyo Branch Press at Rs. 13,918, in all Rs. 4,10,347. The corresponding total for 1911-12 was Rs. 4,22,862. The value of dead stock at the three presses, exclusive of land and buildings, is estimated at Rs. 6,95,196. The new Government Press buildings at Rangoon were occupied on the 1st January 1913.

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR

1913–14

RANGOON
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BURMA
1915

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[The maximum length of the Summary is from 20 to 30 pages, and of Part II (excluding the red-letter chapters) 150 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1913-14.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(1) The Administration; the Frontier States; and the People.

Administration.

1. The Honourable Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma until the 14th May 1913, and again from the 1st November until the end of the year. Sir George Watson Shaw, Kt., C.S.I., I.C.S., officiated in his place from the 14th May until the 1st November. There were few changes of administrative units during the year, and the number of Civil Divisions and Districts remained the same.

The Shan States and Karenni.

2. The Southern Shan States enjoyed another peaceful and on the whole a prosperous year. The administration of the States was with few exceptions satisfactory. There was a considerable decrease in violent crime, but the total number of criminal cases reported was almost the same as in the previous year. The rainfall was abundant, and crops generally were good. The States however suffered severely from rinderpest amongst the cattle. Trade with Burma prospered, and the expenditure on public works increased. A second Deputy Inspector of Schools was appointed during the year. The financial position of the States generally shows substantial improvement. In Karenni the year was uneventful and prosperous and the States were satisfactorily administered. The *Sawbwa* of Kantarawaddi was formally installed in the early part of the year. The rice crop was below normal, but other crops were good. The timber trade was good and other trade improved. There were no serious epidemics. The expenditure on public works in all the Karenni States was satisfactory, and the financial position of the States was sound. The frontier of the Northern Shan States for the most part remained quiet during the year, and the States were not involved in trans-frontier troubles. The first frontier meeting between British and Chinese officials since the inauguration of the Chinese Republic was held in January, and relations were most cordial. The number of criminal offences reported in the Northern Shan States increased, but there does not appear to have been any great increase in serious crime. The rains were badly distributed and the crops were somewhat below normal. Cattle disease caused serious losses in the different States. Good progress was made in road-making and bridging. The forest revenue increased. The States were fairly free from epidemic diseases. The financial position of the States was generally satisfactory. In the State of

Möng Mit the people are prosperous, the finances are sound, and there was little or no serious crime during the year. The year was on the whole a prosperous one for the Shan States of Thaungthut and Kanti in the Upper Chindwin District.

The Chin Hills.

3. The year was an uneventful one in the Chin Hills. With a few minor exceptions friendly relations with tribes in unadministered territory were unbroken. The regular crops were poor in the Northern Hills, but good elsewhere, and the cultivation of wheat was resumed by the Chins. The Civil hospitals became more popular, and vaccination made great progress.

The North-Eastern Frontier.

4. The outstanding feature of the year on the north-eastern frontier was the taking under administration of a new area north of Myitkyina, which has since the close of the year been formed into the new District of Putao. The civil officers everywhere met with a friendly reception. As regards trans-frontier incidents the year was uneventful. Our relations with the Chinese were friendly, and the ordinary frontier meetings have been resumed. The amount of violent crime in the north-east frontier Districts was about normal. Considerable seizures of opium were made during the year. Road-making was carried on assiduously in the Hkauri country of the Bhamo District and elsewhere.

Condition of the People.

5. The Province enjoyed another prosperous season, and all classes of the agricultural population benefited from the comparatively good harvests and the high level of prices. In Upper Burma co-operation appears to have bettered the condition of the peasant-proprietor considerably. The year was on the whole a healthy one.

(2) The Administration of the Land.

Realisation of the Land Revenue.

6. Although suffering in some respects by a comparison with the previous year's abnormal conditions, the year of report was again a favourable one for agriculture. There was comparatively little damage done by floods, and cultivation in Lower Burma was generally extended. In Upper Burma the season was above the average in most of the important revenue-producing districts. Enhanced settlement rates were introduced in some Districts, and the total land revenue demand for the whole Province increased by Rs. $7\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. Remissions slightly exceeded the figures for the previous year, and the actual collections show an increase of about Rs. $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The amount for which application was made for process was again small, and the percentage of recovery increased.

Surveys.

7. Topographical survey operations were carried out during the year by Imperial agency in the Myitkyina, Katha and Tavoy Districts. The Provincial Land Records Department undertook demarcation work followed by extension surveys in the Kyaukpyu and Thayetmyo Districts. Progress was also made with the revision and extension surveys in the Akyab District, and the survey of a small area in the Sandoway District was revised. Revision survey operations were continued in Rangoon Town, but otherwise town survey work was restricted to one small railway town. *Potta* surveys were conducted in several Districts, and some other survey work was done in connection with the cultivation of paddy and miscellaneous crops and on land wanted for mining purposes.

Settlements.

8. Settlement operations were again carried out by six parties throughout the year. Five settlements were completed, and progress was made with four others, whilst new settlements were commenced in three Districts. The first circuits of the Bassein, Pyapôn and Pegu settlements, and the Rangoon Town and Myaungmya settlements were sanctioned during the year. The results of these settlements will be to enhance the rates by 33·62 per cent. of the current assessment.

Land Records.

9. The rural area under supplementary survey increased by 122 square miles, a result chiefly due to accretions of land on the Sittang estuary. Assessment rates were enhanced in several Districts, and rural assessments increased by over Rs. 8 lakhs. The urban area continued to expand, one additional town being brought under supplementary survey. Expenditure on supplementary survey was slightly less than in the previous year, and the percentage of the total cost of the department to the total assessment again declined. The number of survey schools in the Province was reduced to 18 by the closing of the school at Prome, and the total number of pupils fell. The results of the yearly examination were disappointing. The instruction camp at Tavoy for Probationary Assistant Superintendents was abolished during the year.

Transfers of land.

10. The statistics of land transactions in Lower Burma for the year show that confidence continues in land as an investment. There was a slight fall in the area sold, but a much larger rise in the area mortgaged. The sale and mortgage rates both rose. In Upper Burma the areas sold and mortgaged both increased. The reasons given for the increases vary, and the causes affecting land transfers appear almost impossible to summarize.

Waste land.

11. The area of waste land leased or granted for cultivation fell by considerably over 50 per cent. The decline was particularly marked in the area leased for rubber cultivation. A large number of leases were issued in connection with the allotment of land irrigated from the Môn Canal, but grants or leases for paddy and similar cultivation were ordinarily issued in special cases only.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. The area of land owned by non-agriculturists was about the same as in the previous year, and agriculturists occupied slightly over 86 per cent. of the whole occupied area under supplementary survey. The peasant-proprietor appears to have improved his position during the year at the expense of the resident non-agriculturist. In Upper Burma it is only in areas where security is guaranteed by irrigation that the non-agriculturist ventures his capital. The area let at full rent continues to increase, and the average rental per acre has also risen. The formation of a settled tenant class progresses but slowly.

(3) Protection.

Legislation.

13. Only one bill was passed by the Legislative Council of Burma during the official year. The Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Act of 1913 is mainly a measure of decentralization, and enables the Local Government to make rules under both the (Lower) Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and the Upper

Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889, without the previous sanction of the Government of India. It also gives fuller power to the Local Government in certain other matters, and amends the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation so as to bring it into harmony with the Burma Towns Act, 1907, and the Burma Village Act, 1907. The Upper Burma Registration Amendment Regulation was the only Regulation affecting Burma enacted during the year. It repealed the Upper Burma Registration Regulation, 1897, the place of which has been taken by the Indian Registration Act.

Police.

14. Serious difficulty was once more experienced in obtaining suitable Burman recruits for the Civil Police, and the actual fell still further short of the sanctioned strength during the year. The prospects of the lower ranks were improved by an increase in the sanctioned percentage of vacancies in the grade of Sub-Inspector to be filled by promotion. One hundred and sixty-eight officers and men were added to the sanctioned strength. The general conduct and discipline of the force was satisfactory, and the percentage of literacy increased. Housing is still in a very backward condition, and a considerable sum had to be spent in renting houses for officers and men for whom no accommodation existed. True cases of cognizable crime declined in the year of report, but the decrease was mainly in minor offences. There were fewer violent crimes than in the previous year, but there was an increase in the number of cases in which firearms were used. The two Divisions of Pegu and Irrawaddy were responsible for more than half the serious crime in the Province. There was a large decline in the number of persons proceeded against under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure, but care seems to have been exercised in the selection of persons to be proceeded against. The number of persons whose names were on the surveillance registers was unduly large, and action is being taken to reduce the number. The punitive police forces in the Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts, which were imposed in 1912 for a period of five years, are proving successful in reducing crime in those Districts. A punitive force was entertained in the neighbouring Henzada District during the year of report.

The sanctioned strength of the Military Police remained unaltered. The conduct of the force was again good, but it suffered somewhat in health as compared with the previous year. The drafting of men to Myitkyina and the north-eastern frontier proved a serious drain on the resources of the force, and great difficulty was experienced in supplying Lower Burma with patrols.

The principal event in the history of the Rangoon Town Police during the year was the creation of an additional division in the town. The year was a successful one for the force. The conduct of the force was on the whole very good, and there was a substantial decrease in the volume of crime with which it had to deal. With one minor exception the town was free from riots and affrays during the year. Detection was, however, less successful than in the previous year.

Village Administration.

15. The number of *Myothugyis* and *Taikthugyis* in the Province was still further reduced, but a decline also in the number of other headmen indicates that officers are learning to appreciate the evils of a too minute subdivision of charges. There was a considerable rise in the number of headmen invested with special

civil and criminal powers, and the quality of their judicial work was generally well reported on. Headmen as usual did their work of collecting the revenue well, and their relations with the police continued to be excellent. In some cases their commission was still inadequate, but the reports indicate that the appointment of headman is becoming increasingly popular. Fines imposed on village-tracts decreased. They were imposed chiefly for failure to make any resistance to dacoits or even to follow them up, but there were numerous instances of most determined resistance to dacoits on the part of villagers.

Criminal Justice.

16. There was a slight decline in the number of original criminal cases tried by the Courts of the Province. This decline is accounted for by a decrease of offences reported under Special and Local Laws. Of offences under the Indian Penal Code, there was a large decrease in the number of theft cases, but there was an increase in the more serious offences. In Lower Burma there were 517 more complaints dismissed under section 203 of the Code of Criminal Procedure than in 1912. The number of persons punished remained practically stationary in Upper Burma, and rose in Lower Burma. Owing to the decrease in theft cases the number of whippings inflicted declined in both parts of the Province. Fewer persons were dealt with as first offenders under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The total amount of fines imposed rose, whilst the number of witnesses examined remained almost stationary. In Lower Burma there was a rise in the average duration of cases. The number of appeals preferred against convictions rose in both parts of the Province, and in Upper Burma there was a considerable fall in the percentage of sentences confirmed.

Prisons.

17. Although the total number of prisoners confined in all the jails of the Province was slightly less at the end than at the beginning of the year, the daily average for the year was the highest on record, and overcrowding continued. There was only a slight increase of accommodation during the year, but since the close of the year some relief has been given, and further extensions are now in progress. There was a slight rise in the number of juvenile prisoners admitted into jail, and in the percentage of reconvicted prisoners. There was a marked decrease in the offences against jail discipline, indicating real improvement in the prisoners' general conduct. The net cost of maintenance per head showed a slight decrease. The death-rate was considerably lower than in 1912, but compared unfavourably with the figures for the two previous years. In the Meiktila jail the conduct of juvenile prisoners was good, and the educational results were satisfactory. Elsewhere the manual training scheme for juveniles appears to have been taken up with keenness.

Civil Justice.

18. The advance in the number of original civil suits which occurred in the previous year was only temporary. In 1913 there was a large decline in the number of institutions both in Lower and in Upper Burma, and a corresponding fall in the value of suits instituted. The decrease occurred almost entirely in suits relating to money and moveable property, and it has been suggested that it was due to agricultural prosperity which enabled creditors to recover their debts without recourse to the Courts. The average duration of contested cases fell slightly in Lower Burma, but rose in Upper Burma. There were fewer persons imprisoned for

debt in both parts of the Province, and the number of applications for the benefit of the Provincial Insolvency Act also decreased. The large proportion of applications rejected under this Act suggests that the District Courts have not yet grasped the meaning of section 15 of the Act. A decrease in the number of appeals before District Courts in Lower Burma was counterbalanced by a corresponding increase in Upper Burma. The number of appeals before Divisional Courts increased in both parts of the Province. There was a general rise in the average duration of appeals. The number of appeals before the Chief Court increased, and for various reasons there was a considerable decline in the number of regular suits disposed of by this Court. There was a very marked increase of both appellate and revisional work in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner.

Registration.

19. Three new registration offices were opened during the year. Compulsory registrations showed an increase both in number and value, but whilst increasing in numbers, instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards showed a decline in value. Instruments of mortgage increased largely both in numbers and value. The increase in average value of land mortgaged corresponded with an increase in the value of agricultural land consequent on the high price of paddy.

Joint Stock Companies.

20. Company-promoting was less active than in the previous year. Only seven new joint stock companies were floated, representing a total nominal capital of Rs. 22·05 lakhs. Two mining and quarrying companies between them accounted for Rs. 19·50 lakhs of this total. Five companies with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 38·90 lakhs wound up their business during the year. Of these the largest was the Chinese Steamship Company, Limited, with a nominal capital of Rs. 23·10 lakhs.

Rangoon Municipality.

21. No new municipal taxes were imposed in Rangoon during the year. Considerable progress was made with the revision of assessments, resulting in a slight increase in the income of the Municipality. Expansion of revenue from this source, however, appears to be exhausting itself. There was a large rise in ordinary expenditure, which exceeded the receipts. Much of this expenditure was incurred in the construction and improvement of roads, to which considerable attention was paid during the year. The town again suffered to a serious extent from fires. The problem of exercising a more complete control over the milk supply of Rangoon was under serious consideration. Attention was also directed to the improvement of the bazaars of the town. The death-rate fell by over five per mille, but was still very high. The town was free from any serious epidemic of cholera or small-pox, but the number of plague cases was slightly higher than in the previous year.

Minor Municipalities.

22. The number of other Municipalities was reduced by the abolition of the Zalun Municipality. Fresh taxes were levied in some Municipalities, and assessments were revised in others, but the average incidence of taxation fell slightly. Public health was on the whole satisfactory. The cause of sanitation obtained much assistance from the special sanitary grants, which were utilised for improving water-supplies, drainage and bazaars. Improvements were also made to existing hospitals, and work was in progress in constructing new hospitals. Expenditure on

education increased, and five Municipal schools were taken over by Government during the year. The state of the accounts of Municipalities as disclosed at the audit was on the whole satisfactory. The town of Kalaw was added to the number of notified areas during the year.

Military.

23. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of the Province was 9,346 officers and men, of whom 3,432 were Europeans. The expenditure on Military works decreased. There was some change in the internal organisation of Volunteer corps, but the number of such corps was unaltered. The total strength of Volunteer corps and the number of efficients declined.

Marine.

24. There was an increase both in the expenditure on light-houses and light-ships, and in the receipts from Burma Coast-dues. Work on the Alguada Reef Light-house continued, but progress was slow. Clock-work machines and fittings were obtained for other light-houses during the year.

Both the receipts and the expenditure of the Rangoon Port Trust increased, but there was a very large surplus on the year's working. Revised rates for port dues came into force during the year, but the increase of revenue was chiefly due to trade expansion. The outstanding feature in the administration of the port was the completion of the river training works, nearly two years before the estimated date of completion. At the close of the year there was every sign that the scheme would be completely successful. The maintenance of a deep water channel across the Hastings shoal also received the attention of the Port Commissioners, and a new dredger was purchased for this purpose. The whole question of the control of the Rangoon Pilot Service was under consideration during the year. Outside Rangoon there are six ports in Burma for which separate Port funds are maintained, and the financial position of these funds was satisfactory.

Commercial Marine.

25. As a result of the diversion of the rice-trade to India, and the consequent decrease in the number of tramp steamers chartered for the purpose of taking rice to Europe, the number and tonnage of vessels which entered ports in Burma from foreign countries declined. Improvements made by the British India Steam Navigation Company in the means of communication to small ports on the Tenasserim Coast resulted in a large decline in the number of sailing vessels engaged in the coasting trade. The number of steamers engaged in this trade, however, increased, and the tonnage of all vessels so engaged was greater than in the previous year by over 220,000 tons. Of the total tonnage in the combined foreign and coasting trade, vessels entering Rangoon accounted for over two-thirds. Of the vessels that entered ports in Burma from foreign countries 63·04 per cent. were British and 10·27 per cent. British Indian. The number of Japanese vessels declined, but still exceeded those of any other foreign country.

(4) Production and Distribution.

Agriculture.

26. There was a considerable development in the work of the Agricultural Department during the year. Several new farms have been opened, and additions have been made to the subordinate staff. The second Provincial Agricultural

and Co-operative Conference was held at Mandalay in August, and was largely attended by visitors, both official and non-official. Public interest in the department appears to be growing. Experimental work, principally in connection with paddy cultivation, was carried on at the Mandalay and Hmawbi Stations. The study of cotton has now been taken up seriously by the department. Attention was also paid to the cultivation of wheat, castor, Madagascar beans, and sugarcane. The Taunggyi experimental garden was sold during the year, and the establishment in its place of an experimental station at Yaunghwe is under consideration. Much useful work was done by the chemical, botanical and entomological sections of the department, and a small experimental dairy farm was opened at Mandalay.

There was no change in the superior staff of the Veterinary Department, but the strength of Veterinary Assistants was increased. The record of the Veterinary School at Insein showed a distinct improvement, and there was a considerable competition for admittance as pupils. The better equipment of the school was taken in hand during the year.

Stock and Cattle Disease.

- **27.** The Province was comparatively free from cattle disease during the year. Rinderpest was responsible for about two-thirds of the total deaths from contagious disease, but was much less prevalent than in the previous year. In Burma proper the only serious outbreaks occurred in the Amherst, Mergui and Katha Districts. Rinderpest was, however, responsible for a large mortality amongst cattle in the Shan States. The ravages of other contagious diseases were generally light. Preventive inoculation against rinderpest was carried out in nine Districts with successful results. Co-operative cattle insurance is beginning to make headway in the dry zone Districts of Upper Burma. There was little change during the year in the numbers of the different kinds of agricultural stock in the Province.

Weather and Crops.

28. The character of the seasons in 1913-14 was not so favourable to crops as in the previous year, which was somewhat phenomenal. In Lower Burma and the wet zone generally the rainfall was sufficient, but the distribution left something to be desired. Most Districts in the dry zone suffered from a shortage in the early rains, but enjoyed improved conditions later. In the wet zone of the Mandalay Division the rains were timely and well distributed. The total occupied area in the Province increased largely, and the area on which crops matured still more largely. Floods caused comparatively little damage, and the area on which crops were destroyed was even smaller than in the previous year. The areas under rice and cotton increased considerably, and both sesamum and groundnuts showed a further expansion. Increases were recorded in most of the other important crops. The failure of tank irrigation caused a slight decrease in the irrigated area.

Outturns and Prices.

29. According to the final estimates the Provincial rice outturn decreased by 8 per cent. of normal. This decrease was, however, largely set off by an expansion in the area under rice, and the exportable surplus was about the same as in the previous year. The foreign demand for rice was not so strong, but prices though declining somewhat remained high. Cultivators and district brokers held up their crops, and district prices were again often higher than those ruling in

Rangoon. The estimated output of cotton and groundnuts increased. A combine amongst the ginners appears to have been responsible for a considerable decline in the local prices of cotton. White beans also fetched lower prices, but otherwise no notable fluctuations of price are recorded.

Agricultural Loans.

30. The advances made to agriculturists during the year under the Agriculturists' Loans Act declined slightly. The agricultural prosperity of two successive years was reflected in the greater ease of collection. Of the amount due 87 per cent. was collected during the year as compared with 83 per cent. in the previous year. The amount of loans suspended and overdue at the end of the year declined. A smaller sum was advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act. Advances under this act were mainly made for local irrigation projects.

Co-operation.

31. The number of agricultural credit societies again increased, but the attention of the Registrar and his staff was chiefly directed during the year to the improvement of existing societies. The Provincial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference was largely attended by delegates of societies, and District Co-operative Conferences were instituted. Fifty-four societies were allowed to borrow from the Upper Burma Central Co-operative Bank on cash credit. Central unions for mutual guarantee and inspections are growing in number, and are reported to be becoming more efficient. The expansion of the Upper Burma Bank was checked in the first half of the year, but deposits came in so freely later that it was found possible to reduce the rate of interest. The Pakôkku Bank is now reported to be an efficient and well-managed concern. Urban Credit Societies failed to make much progress, but the silk-weaving societies of Amarapura continued to prosper, and some of the societies of salary-earners had a successful year. Co-operative sale societies dealt chiefly with paddy, groundnuts and peas. The formation of new cattle insurance societies has been checked and the proposed central re-insurance society postponed, pending the result of an application for a Government guarantee. A pony-breeding society was formed towards the close of the year.

Horticulture.

32. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon increased its membership during the year, and generally improved its financial position. The annual exhibition of the Society was not so successful as in some previous years. The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society published no report of the year's work, and was unable to hold its usual flower-show.

Forests.

33. The total area covered by reserved forests in the Province at the end of the year amounted to 27,332 square miles. The area of unclassed forests was estimated at 114,111 square miles, but no information is available to show what portion of this area is stocked with valuable timber-producing species. Three hundred and thirty-three square miles of new forests were finally settled during the year. Final orders were passed by the Chief Conservator in connection with working-plans over 1,581 square miles. Offences against forest rules again increased, a result attributed in several Divisions to the exhaustion of supplies

from unclassed forests. Fire-protection in some moist forests has been permanently abandoned and the total area under fire-protection has therefore decreased. Where protection was attempted it was slightly more successful than in the previous year. Some illicit grazing has been reported, and in one Division elephants are said to be causing great damage to teak trees in plantations. There was a rise of 15 per cent. in the number of teak trees girdled during the year, and the amounts extracted both of teak and of other timber also increased.

Mines and Quarries.

34. The year of report is noticeable for a marked lull in the prospecting fever, but the number of applications for mining leases has increased. The bulk of the applications for prospecting licenses came as usual from the Tavoy and Mergui Districts, and are largely for wolfram or tin. Mining activity in the Tavoy District continued to increase. The output of petroleum again rose largely, the Magwe District which contains the Yenangyaung oil-fields alone accounting for nearly 21 million gallons more than in the previous year. Almost the whole of the petroleum produced in the Province came from the four Districts of Magwe, Myingyan, Pakôkku and Minbu, but drilling operations made considerable progress in the Upper Chindwin District. The production of gold increased slightly, but the value of rubies extracted declined. There was also a decrease in the production of lead slag, and copper ore, but more silver-lead ore was extracted, and there was a considerable revival in the jade mining industry in the Myitkyina District. Quarry stones and clay were as usual extracted in large quantities.

Manufactures and Factories.

35. Burma still remains primarily an agricultural country. There has been a steady advance in the number of persons employed in the larger industries such as rice-milling, but this affects immigrants from India rather than the indigenous population. Of the indigenous industries silk-weaving still prospers, and a weaving school in Amarapura Town is doing much for its development. The whole-time Inspector of Factories under the Factories Act of 1911 assumed charge of his duties at the beginning of the year. There was as usual considerable difficulty in obtaining labour in certain parts during the busy season and wages were high, especially in the Tenasserim Division. The health of the operatives and the sanitary condition of factories were on the whole satisfactory. Attention was paid to the question of fencing machinery during the year.

Maritime Trade.

36. There was again a considerable increase in the Maritime Trade of the Province, both in exports and imports. A marked feature of the year was the demand for rice in India, and the consequent decline in exports to foreign countries. The total volume of the export trade in this commodity however constituted a record, and accounted for 66 per cent. of the total value of all exports from the Province. Notable increases also occurred in the exports of mineral-oils, hides and groundnuts, whilst the value of timber and lead exported declined. An advance of Rs. 187 lakhs in imports was fairly generally distributed amongst the different classes of goods imported. Specially large rises are noticeable in cotton manufactures, metals and machinery. The value of the private coastal trade between the different ports of Burma also increased, most of the trade being between Rangoon and the Tenasserim ports. Rangoon absorbed over 80

per cent. of the total sea-borne trade of the country. Of the minor ports Bassein still maintains a substantial lead in the export trade to foreign countries, but in the total trade Moulmein holds the first place. Tavoy and Mergui with improved communications absorb a large portion of the inter-coastal trade of the Province.

Trans-frontier Trade.

37. The total value of the trans-frontier trade again increased, a decline in exports being more than counterbalanced by a rise in imports. The imports of cattle alone increased by over 50 per cent. The trade with Western China very nearly maintained the high level reached in 1912-13. Trade with the Northern Shan States declined, but for the Southern Shan States and Siam the figures show satisfactory increases, and trade with Karenni was particularly prosperous.

Public Works — Roads and Buildings.

38. No important administrative change took place in the Public Works Department during the year. The total expenditure of the department excluding expenditure on irrigation exceeded the expenditure of the previous year by nearly Rs. 19 lakhs, and was the highest recorded for many years. The total grant included assignments of funds from Imperial grants. A larger sum was spent out of the special Imperial contribution towards the improvement of communications, but most of this expenditure was devoted to the replacement of old wooden bridges by permanent structures, and the total length of metalled roads in the Province actually declined. The chief buildings in progress during the year included the new Customs House and the Telegraph office at Rangoon. Both these buildings are classed as Imperial works. Expenditure on Civil Provincial buildings increased by over Rs. 5 lakhs. New laboratories were under construction for the Government College, Rangoon, and extensions were being made to the new General Hospital, Rangoon. Several school buildings were completed, and work was also done on jail buildings and hospitals. Some expenditure was incurred on original police works, but the quarters and barracks in existence are still inadequate for the needs of the force. Reclamation work in Rangoon Town again suffered from want of funds, but a considerable sum was spent on reclaiming certain portions of the town of Kyaiklat.

Railways and Tramways.

39. The length of open railway line was increased during the year by the opening to traffic of another 7 miles of the Southern Shan States extension line, and further progress was made with the extension. No other line was in course of construction, but various proposals for construction were under consideration, and the reconnaisance survey of the line from Moulmein to Victoria Point was completed. There were a number of minor breaches of the line due to floods, but serious accidents were few. The number of passengers carried increased by over two millions, and the net profits by 22 per cent. There was also a marked increase in the percentage of net receipts to capital outlay.

The passenger traffic on the electric tramways in Rangoon and Mandalay and the receipts of the companies increased. Considerable progress was made during the year in the construction of the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway. The report made by a Committee appointed by Government to examine into the affairs of the Madaya-Mandalay Light Railway was under consideration at the end of the year.

Irrigation and Navigation Works.

40. The areas irrigated by the Mandalay and Shwebo Canals increased and in each case they now exceed the amounts originally regarded as the total irrigable areas. Serious damage was done to the Mandalay Canal by floods, but the working expenses declined considerably, and the percentage of net revenue to capital outlay increased in the case of both canals. Of the land irrigated by the Môn Canals a large part was subject to assessment for the first time. The irrigated area also increased and a deficit on the previous year's working was converted into a profit of nearly Rs. 1¾ lakh. Good progress was made on the Ye-u Canal which was still under construction at the end of the year. The year was a bad one for irrigation works which depend on local drainage, and there was therefore a fall in the area irrigated by minor works. The expenses however also declined, and the net revenue realized was slightly larger than in the previous year. The Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts were the chief sufferers from the unfavourable season, and showed a considerable deficit on the year's working.

Of the Navigation Works the Pegu-Sittang and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canals had only a moderately successful season. Traffic was again greatly impeded in the former by the weed known as the water hyacinth. The work of improving the Twante Canal was continued, and the capital outlay expended on the canal by the end of the year was over Rs. 50 lakhs.

(5) Finance.

Provincial Financial Settlement.

41. No change was made during the year in the Provincial Settlement regulating the financial relations of the Imperial and Provincial Governments. The annual assignment to the Provincial Funds of Burma under this settlement was fixed in 1911 at Rs. 12·90 lakhs. Including this sum, contributions from Imperial Funds in the year 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 35·54 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 98·29 lakhs in the previous year.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

42. Receipts classed as Imperial increased by Rs. 68·53 lakhs to Rs. 4,42·67 lakhs, whilst Imperial expenditure declined by Rs. 7·77 lakhs to Rs. 69·60 lakhs. There was a decrease of Rs. 46·87 lakhs to Rs. 5,61·45 lakhs in Provincial receipts, and a rise in Provincial expenditure by Rs. 33 lakhs to Rs. 5,52·31 lakhs. In Municipal Funds receipts show a decrease, but expenditure has risen. District Funds as well as other Local Funds record increases in both receipts and expenditure.

Land Revenue.

43. The gross receipts under the head Land Revenue for the year ending on the 31st March 1914 amounted to Rs. 4,65·26 lakhs or Rs. 11·84 lakhs more than in the previous year. After the final adjustment of accounts the amount credited to Imperial Funds was Rs. 1,36·75 lakhs, and to Provincial Rs. 3,26·33 lakhs. The large decline in the contributions from Imperial Funds is responsible for the fact that Provincial receipts under this head are considerably less than in the previous year. Another favourable season resulted in a further increase of Rs. 7½ lakhs in Land Revenue proper. Receipts under minor heads of Land Revenue also reflect two successive years of prosperity. Both capitation-tax in Lower Burma, and *thathameda* in Upper Burma have increased, and a rise of

nearly Rs. 3 lakhs is recorded in fishery revenue. The total collections of miscellaneous land revenue were almost the same as in the previous year, but petroleum revenue continued to expand.

Customs.

44. The total collections for the year under the Imperial head Customs were less by Rs. 4·72 lakhs than in the previous year. The decrease was confined to the export duty, and was due to the fact that a large part of the foreign export trade in paddy was diverted to Indian ports. From import duties the amount realized exceeded the previous year's figures by over Rs. 10½ lakhs. The expenditure on Customs varied very slightly, and the net revenue for the year was Rs. 180 lakhs. Of this sum the bulk as usual was realized in Rangoon; the net revenue realized at subordinate ports amounted to Rs. 30·85 lakhs only.

Salt.

45. There was a large decrease in the number of licenses issued during the year for the local manufacture of salt, but the total output was only slightly less than in 1912, and considerably more than in 1911. In the Districts under direct taxation, which provide the great bulk of the salt manufactured in the Province, the decline in number of licenses was almost entirely made up by greater activity amongst the remaining licensees. Large clearances from bond to avoid the enhanced duty which came into effect on the 1st January 1914 caused the actual issues of locally made salt to show a large increase over the figures for 1912. Imports of foreign salt increased by nearly four per cent. The imports from Germany, though still the largest, are less than in 1912, whilst those from the United Kingdom have increased. The total revenue derived from salt and salt-fish rose by over a lakh of rupees.

Excise.

46. The year of report is the first full year since the reorganization of the conjoint Excise and Salt establishments. The expenditure on these establishments amounted to Rs. 15½ lakhs, 3⅔ per cent. of which is debitable to the Imperial head "Salt." The gross receipts for the year from excise exceeded those of the previous year by Rs. 2 lakhs, and amounted to Rs. 87 lakhs. A decrease under the head Opium was more than set off by an increase under liquor. The decline in opium revenue is due to a decrease in the consumption of Government opium. There was a further fall in the number of registered Burman consumers, and the figures suggest that the taste for opium is decreasing in the greater part of the Province. The contraband trade in opium is however still a serious problem, and large seizures of illicit opium were made during the year. The cocaine habit has become a serious evil in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions, and to what extent opium is being replaced in the Province by cocaine and morphia is uncertain. License fees and excise duty on liquors of all kinds produced about Rs. 3½ lakhs more revenue than in the previous year. With the exception of the local manufactures of foreign liquor and spirit, there was a general increase in consumption of all kinds of liquors. The contract distillery system was further extended during the year, and the number of outstills in the whole Province was reduced from 23 to 12. License fees for country distillery spirit amounted to more than double their previous year's value. The greater part of the excise revenue, other than opium, however, still comes from country liquors, the total value of license fees for which was over Rs. 2 lakhs greater in the year of report than in the year 1912-13.

The results of the year's working show the necessity for the exercise of great caution in substituting country spirit for country beer shops. A large number of samples of country beer were tested during the year with satisfactory results.

Stamps.

47. The Stamp Revenue showed a slight revival during the year. Receipts under the Court Fees Act still further decreased, but only to an almost negligible extent, and this decrease was more than counterbalanced by an increase of receipts under the Stamp Act. An increase under the latter Act occurred in most Lower Burma Districts, but in Rangoon there was a decrease.

Assessed Taxes.

48. The receipts from income-tax exceeded the figures for the previous year by over Rs. 3 lakhs. The greater part of this increase was contributed from Rangoon Town where collections rose by Rs. $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Elsewhere the increase in total yield was fairly evenly distributed throughout the Province. A large increase in collection of the tax in Rangoon on profits of companies indicates a satisfactory recovery from the financial depression of the former year. The number of assessees other than Government servants or persons in receipt of salaries throughout the Province rose by over 1,000, and the amount of the tax collected from them by a lakh of rupees.

Provincial Revenue and Finance.

49. The provincial receipts in the year 1913-14 were Rs. 46·87 lakhs less than in the previous year. For this the large decline in the contribution from Imperial to Provincial Funds, and the consequent falling off in the Provincial share of Land Revenue is responsible. Of the other important revenue heads Forests, Assessed Taxes and Excise all return substantial increases. Provincial expenditure rose by Rs. 32·74 lakhs. More than half of this increase occurs under the head Civil Works, and is chiefly due to the incurring of large expenditure out of the special Imperial grants. Expenditure out of these grants is also in large measure responsible for an increase of Rs. $5\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs under the head Education.

Forests.

50. In the accounts for the financial year the receipts in the Forest Department are shown as exceeding those of the previous year by over Rs. $5\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The Departmental Report however deals with the year ending on the 30th June 1914, and reports a decrease of Rs. 1·67 lakh in receipts. The decrease is due to the postponement of the payment of instalments due on the sale of the lease of the Mergui rubber plantation. The revenue from timber shows a satisfactory increase. Expenditure rose by Rs. 4·70 lakhs, and the net revenue was Rs. 68·93 lakhs, or Rs. 6·37 lakhs less than in the previous year.

Local Funds.

51. The total receipts of all District Cess Funds during the year amounted to Rs. 32·99 lakhs, and their expenditure to Rs. 29·81 lakhs. Both receipts and expenditure were considerably higher than in the previous year. One fund temporarily overdrew its balance during the year, but each fund closed the year with a credit balance. The payment of larger contributions from Provincial Funds towards works of public utility was chiefly responsible for an increase of nearly Rs. 4 lakhs in the receipts of District Funds in Upper Burma. The expenditure incurred from these funds, however, was only slightly higher than in the previous

year. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year. Of the seven Cantonment Funds the total expenditure slightly exceeded the ordinary receipts. The Rangoon Fund, however, received a loan from Government of Rs. 50,000. The number of Town Funds was raised to 19 by the creation of a fund at Kalaw. These funds as well as the Port and Pilot Funds all closed the year with credit balances.

Municipal Finance.

52. The total ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by Rs. 0·47 lakh to Rs. 42·09 lakhs. The greater part of the increase occurred under the head Rates and Taxes and is ascribed to revision of assessments and the normal expansion of the town. Expenditure rose by Rs. 5·26 lakhs and exceeded the ordinary receipts by over Rs. 2 lakhs. A large part of the increased expenditure was incurred on roads and may be looked on as to some extent abnormal. No loan was raised during the year, and an opening balance of Rs. 28·20 lakhs was reduced to a closing balance of Rs. 16·45 lakhs. Attempts were made to float a new loan of Rs. 10¼ lakhs but only a small portion was tendered at the minimum rate of acceptance. The indebtedness of the Municipality at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 193 lakhs. Less than Rs. 3 lakhs were spent on works from the Reclamation Fund. In the other Municipalities both receipts and expenditure increased, but receipts exceeded expenditure. No loan was raised during the year, and the total indebtedness of the Municipalities to Government fell from Rs. 10·47 lakhs to Rs. 9·89 lakhs.

Note circulation.

53. The average net circulation of notes for the year was Rs. 4,71·62 lakhs or Rs. 12·81 lakhs more than in the previous year. The net circulation at the close of the year was however slightly less than at the close of the year 1912-13. Notes of the 10 and 100-rupee denominations account for over 95 per cent. of this circulation, and 10-rupee notes are steadily replacing notes of 100 rupees.

(6) Vital Statistics and Medical Services.

Births and Deaths.

54. The area under registration remained unchanged. The birth-rate in the Province exceeded the death-rate by 7·62, the birth-rate being 32·61 per mille and the death-rate 24·99 per mille. In 1912 the corresponding excess was 5·09. In towns there were more deaths than births during the year, the excess of births being confined to the rural areas. The number of births recorded throughout the Province is slightly greater than in 1912, and the number of deaths has decreased by 20,161. The ravages of epidemic diseases with the exception of plague were comparatively light during the year. Malaria has been less prevalent in the irrigated area of the Minbu District, where proper drainage has been introduced, and the experiment has been tried of specially equipping two travelling dispensaries. There was a further marked increase in the use of quinine by the people of the Province. The infantile death-rate for the Province fell from 228·15 in 1912 to 221·40 in 1913, and was slightly less than in 1911. The decrease was most marked in the urban death-rate.

Plague.

55. The mortality from plague was greater during the year of report than in 1912. The death-rate rose from ·31 per mille to ·44, although the latter figure is still considerably below the ·61 recorded in 1911. Except in Rangoon and a few

other places the systematic destruction of rats was practically abandoned. Inoculation appears to have been welcomed more warmly in Upper than in Lower Burma.

Medical Relief.

56. There were 270 hospitals and dispensaries in the Province at the close of the year. There was again a substantial increase in the total number of patients treated. The mortality amongst in-door patients showed a further decrease, and was 6·21 per cent. during the year. The percentage of Burmese patients to the total treated was slightly less than in the previous year, but there was an increase in the attendance of the total indigenous population. Work is now in progress on the buildings of a Pasteur Institute, the scheme for which was approved by His Majesty's Secretary of State in 1912. There was a large decrease in the death-rate in the two Lunatic Asylums of the Province. Detailed plans and estimates for the new Lunatic Asylum have been under preparation.

Sanitation.

57. The total percentage of expenditure by the various Municipal and Local authorities on sanitary works has risen and is now slightly over 30 per cent. of their total incomes. The Province enjoyed the benefit during the year of a non-recurring grant from the Government of India of Rs. 10½ lakhs to be spread over three years, and of recurring grants for sanitation amounting to Rs. 6 lakhs. Of the former grant Rs. 1,88,382 was distributed during the year for urban sanitary improvements. From the recurring grants considerable allotments were made to Maymyo, Prome, and Akyab for drainage schemes, and to Maymyo, Mônywa, and Yamèthin for water-supplies. Progress has been made in erecting a new bazaar at Paungdè, and in the Pegu bazaar improvement and water-supply and Mandalay drainage schemes. The whole of the Rs. 6 lakhs grant was allotted for expenditure on these and similar schemes.

Vaccination.

58. Although there was a decrease in the number of re-vaccinations, probably due to the absence of small-pox in epidemic form, the number of primary vaccinations rose by 6,483. The total number of successful primary operations showed a slight decrease, but the success obtained by the special vaccination staff was higher than in any of the previous five years. Verification of the work by District Medical Officers was again unequal. The numbers of infants and children vaccinated during the year were greater than the corresponding numbers in 1912. The report on the working of the Vaccine Depôt at Meiktila was satisfactory as to both the amount and quality of lymph produced.

(7) Instruction.

Education.

59. The total expenditure on education from all sources rose from Rs. 53·36 lakhs in 1912-13 to Rs. 61·55 lakhs in 1913-14. Of this total nearly Rs. 11 lakhs were provided by grants from Imperial funds. Non-recurring grants enabled Rs. 6½ lakhs to be spent on Government buildings and building grants and equipment for private institutions. Elementary education for boys and education for girls derived special benefit from the Rs. 4½ lakhs expended out of the non-recurring grants. The attendance in primary institutions shows a considerable rise during the year, and it is hoped that the decline in elementary education which began in 1909-10 has been arrested. A large number of new schools, especially

monastic, have come on to the list of registered schools as a result of the placing of six Deputy Inspectors of Schools on special duty in connection with primary education. In the secondary stage also there has been an improvement. The numbers of Secondary Schools both Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular and the numbers of pupils attending them increased during the year. But the most marked rise occurred in the figures for collegiate education. The average number of students in the two colleges of the Province rose from 353 to 473, and is now nearly twice as large as it was five years ago. The results, however, of the examinations at the Calcutta University were disappointing. The establishment of a University in Rangoon is still under consideration, and no definite decision has been come to as to the site to be selected. Educational institutions of all kinds showed an increase of 2·9 per cent. in number, and of 9·9 per cent. in attendance.

The Government School of Engineering, Insein, had its most successful year for many years. The steps taken to render the school more popular amongst Burmans were attended with most encouraging results. Whilst the total attendance rose from 33 to 42, the percentage of Burman students was three times as large as in the previous year. The number of Normal Schools underwent no change, but it is interesting to note that two elementary training classes have been attached to *pôngyi kyaungs*, and that a keen desire for more classes is reported. The number of European schools remained unchanged, whilst the attendance rose slightly. During the year a conference of leading Mahomedan gentlemen was held and a committee formed to draw up proposals for the improvement and expansion of Mahomedan education. There was a very satisfactory increase in the number of Mahomedan pupils in both public and private institutions. Schools for special classes continued to grow both in numbers and attendance. The progress in female education was more than maintained, the increase in the number of girls under instruction showing the abnormally high figure of 21 per cent.

Literature and Presses.

60. The number of publications registered during the year was greater than in the previous year. Dramas fell to an insignificant number, but publications on religious subjects rose by 50 per cent. More than half of the works published were written in Burmese, and the bulk of the remainder in Pâli-Burmese, Pâli, or English. The number of printing presses still further increased.

Arts and Sciences.

61. The only Art Handicraft Exhibition held during the year was the Annual Provincial Exhibition at Rangoon. There was a slight falling off in the number of exhibits, but the quality was generally good, and out-stations were well represented.

(8) Archæology.

Archæology.

62. The Architectural Survey of the Mandalay Palace, and the first part of the monograph on the Ananda Temple at Pagan were practically completed during the year. The Archæological Department has as usual been occupied in the preservation of ancient monuments, certain old buildings in Pagan receiving special attention. A special feature of the year was the discovery of a number of old Talaing inscriptions and relics in the neighbourhood of Pegu.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references, on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue, the Measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes, Lunatic Asylums, the Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist, the Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, and the Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1913; the Shan States, Chin Hills and the North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1913 to the close of June 1914. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1914.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier for the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1914.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.
Form of Administration.
Character of Land Tenures: System of Survey and Settlement.
Civil Divisions of British Territory.
Details of the last Census: Tribes and Languages.

For information on the foregoing subjects, a reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 76 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Changes in the Administration.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma from the beginning of the year until the 14th May, on which date he proceeded on six months' leave. The Hon'ble Sir George Watson Shaw, Kt., C.S.I., I.C.S., officiated as Lieutenant-Governor during his absence. Sir Harvey Adamson resumed his appointment on the 1st November, and continued to hold charge of the Province until the end of the year.

CHAP. I.—PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

Administrative territorial changes.

2. No important administrative territorial changes took place during the year. With the exception of the transfer of small areas from the Meiktila to the Kyaukse District and from the Pakôkku to the Myingyan District, the boundaries between Districts and Subdivisions remained unaltered. Modifications were made in the boundaries of Townships within the Pegu, Ma-ubin, Lower Chindwin and Prome Districts, and the headquarters of the Ngathainggyaung Subdivision of the Bassein District were transferred from Ngathainggyaung to Kyônpyaw. No new Districts, Subdivisions or Townships were created during the year.

Additions to and changes in the Administrative Staff.

3. There were few important changes made during the year in the administrative staff. A separate Subdivisional Judge and Additional Magistrate was appointed at Nyaunglebin. In Rangoon the appointment of an Additional Deputy Superintendent of Police was created in connection with the reorganization of the Police Divisions of the Town. A second Deputy Sanitary Commissioner was appointed during the year, and the post of Deputy Superintendent of the Rangoon Central Jail, to be filled by a Military Assistant Surgeon, was created.

Relations with Tributary States, and Frontier Affairs.

(i) *Shan and Karenni States.*

[*Southern Shan States:* 38 *States, area* 36,154 *square miles, population* 836,574, *tribute Rs.* 2,73,550; *Karenni: five States, area* 4,280 *square miles, population* 63,627, *tribute Rs.* 5,350; *Northern Shan States: five States, area* 16,594 *square miles, population* 480,390, *tribute Rs.* 1,54,500; *Möng Mit: area* 3,562 *square miles, population* 53,214, *tribute Rs.* 20,000; *Hsawnghsup* (*Thaungthut*): *area* 579 *square miles, population* 7,697, *tribute Rs.* 400; *Singkaling Hkâmti* (*Zingalein Kanti*): *area* 983 *square miles, population* 2,560, *tribute Rs.* 100; *Hkâmti Lông* (*Kanti-gyi*) *or Bhor Kampti: area* 973 *square miles, population* (*approximate*) 11,000, *tribute Rs. Nil.*]

The Southern Shan States.

4. The Southern Shan States have enjoyed another peaceful and on the whole a prosperous year. The administration of the States has with few exceptions been satisfactory. The Chiefs of Mawkmai and Loi Ai, two States which gave trouble in the previous year, were removed during the year. The States are benefiting by the change of rulers that has been effected. The aged *Sawbwa* of Möngnai died towards the end of the year, and it is hoped that his successor will co-operate whole-heartedly in checking the corruption and inefficiency which have of late years characterized the administration of the State. Kalaw was transferred to Government during the year by the Myosa of Hsa Möng Hkam, and became a notified area, and the headquarters of the Western Subdivision. The Southern Shan States Railway was opened to traffic in August as far as Yinmabin, a distance of 22 miles.

The sanctioned strength of the Military Police remained unchanged, and except for the transfer of the Hsa Möng Hkam detachment to Kalaw, their distribution also was unaltered. The battalion was 17 under strength at the close of the year. The discipline of the force was well maintained and the relations of the men with the people of the country were as usual good. The conduct of the Civil Police is reported to have been generally satisfactory. The reports on the local police maintained by the various States are again unequal, but in many cases they did good work. The State police of Mawkmai however failed to detect a single case, and steps were being taken to dispense with their services. The police of Yawnghwe were reduced to 57 men during the year. The number of true criminal cases reported during the year was 1,090 as compared with 1,082 in the previous year. Cattle thefts increased by 32, but violent crimes fell from 41 to 27. A large number of cattle thefts remained undetected especially in Hsa Möng Hkam. As a result of the failure of the Myosa in spite of warning to inflict adequate sentences in this State, the Superintendent had to withdraw from his Court all cases of cattle theft and receiving of stolen cattle. The number of Civil suits filed in the Southern Shan States fell from 664 to 598. As usual the majority of the suits were under Rs. 100 in value, and only

two cases exceeded Rs. 5,000. The rainfall was abundant and the year was on the whole a favourable one and crops generally were good. Heavy rain at harvest time did damage to paddy, but it was only in the Möng Pawn and Kēngtūng States that losses were serious. The cattle, however, suffered severely from rinderpest. The disease was prevalent throughout the year, and practically no State escaped an outbreak. The Chiefs and their officials do not yet appear to realize the necessity for combined and continuous efforts to stamp out the disease.

No addition was made to the area of reserved forests which remains at 1,598 square miles. The number of forest offences increased but they were mostly of a petty nature and all were dealt with departmentally. The number of logs of teak extracted during the year was 10,989. The forest revenue was Rs. 1·22 lakh and the expenditure Rs. ·86 lakh, a surplus of Rs. 36,000 being thus shown on the year's working. One mine was worked for the export of lead during the year, and the *Sawbwa* of Lawksawk was permitted to work lead for local sale. Ten fresh prospecting licenses were granted during the year, and two existing licenses were renewed. Steady work was done by the Southern Shan States Syndicate at the old Kalaw gold mine. The trade of the States with Burma is dealt with in Chapter IV. The sum of Rs. 7·47 lakhs was spent on Public Works during the year as compared with Rs. 5·36 lakhs in the previous year. Of this sum Rs. 4·13 lakhs was spent by Government, and Rs. 2·13 lakhs came from State revenue and Rs. 1·21 lakh from remissions of tribute. Of the expenditure by Government Rs. ·49 lakh was absorbed in the Kalaw water-supply scheme.

The hospitals and dispensaries of the States dealt with 62,209 outdoor, and 2,311 indoor patients during the year. These figures are rather lower than those of the previous year, but that is due to a decline in the number of men employed on railway construction, and consequently in the number of patients treated in the Railway hospital. There was a very large increase in the attendance at the hospitals under the Civil Surgeon, Taunggyi. Experience has shown that the type of small-pox imported from Burma is more deadly than the local form, and the vaccination staff was therefore concentrated in the areas most liable to infection from Burma. A second Deputy Inspector of Schools was appointed during the year, and the States have been divided into two divisions for educational purposes. The results of the yearly examination at the Taunggyi school for the sons of Shan Chiefs were good, and the health and conduct of the boys were satisfactory. The quality of the staff has been improved and certain changes in the curriculum have been recommended. The total revenue of the States rose from Rs. 10·82 lakhs to Rs. 11·93 lakhs, whilst the expenditure amounted to Rs. 11·42 lakhs. The financial position generally shows substantial improvement, and in most States the revenue administration was fairly satisfactory.

The Karenni States.

5. In Karenni the year was uneventful and prosperous, and the States were satisfactorily administered. The *Sawbwa* of Kantarawadi was formally installed in the early part of the year. He is reported to have taken a leading part in the administration and to show promise of turning out well. The Karenni-Siam border has been peaceful, and officials on either side have corresponded freely and have assisted each other when required. Only one violent crime was committed during the year, and the accused in this case have been arrested by the Siamese authorities. The number of cattle theft cases reported rose from 14 to 46. This increase may be due to better reporting, but only 9 cases have ended in conviction. The number of civil suits fell to 8. In the early part of the season the rainfall was insufficient and agricultural operations were delayed, but the late rains were heavy. Irrigated paddy was below the average, but other crops were good. There was no serious cattle disease. Some more land was taken up along the Ngwedaung-Loikaw canal and 150 holdings aggregating 1,866 acres are now under cultivation. The high price of teak enabled the timber traders to have another good year. Tin and wolfram to the extent of 1,674 cwts. were extracted at the Mawchi Mines. A crushing mill has been erected, and general progress made in developing the mines. There was a considerable increase in the trade between Karenni and Burma. No serious epidemic occurred amongst the people of the States. The five Karenni States spent Rs. 63,112 on Public Works, Rs. 60,612

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from revenue, and Rs. 2,500 from tribute remission. Kantarawadi contributed Rs. 45,800 of this total. The total receipts of the Kantarawadi State amounted to Rs. 1·36 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·50 lakh in the previous year. The expenditure, however, fell by Rs. ·59 lakh to Rs. 1·18 lakh, and there was a balance of Rs. 33,410 in hand at the close of the year. The receipts of all the smaller States increased.

The Northern Shan States.

6. The first frontier meeting of the Chinese, Bhamo, and Northern Shan States officials since the inauguration of the new Chinese Republic was held in December 1913 and relations were most cordial. The meeting closed prematurely, the senior Chinese officials being recalled owing to the mutiny at Talifu, but a good deal of useful work was subsequently accomplished in the disposal of cases by the Assistant Superintendent and the Chinese Frontier Deputies. The Hpawnghseng feud between the Sinwas and Marus remains unsettled. Some disturbances took place during the year in the Wa States beyond the administrative border. These were found to have been instigated to a great extent by the *Sawbwa* of Manglün, who has incurred the severe displeasure of Government for his disobedience of the strict orders which had been imposed upon him to refrain from interference in the internal affairs of these States. Otherwise the frontier remained quiet and the States have not been involved in trans-frontier troubles. The sanctioned strength of the Military Police remains unchanged, but proposals have been submitted for a permanent increase. The Government Civil Police was short of the sanctioned strength by three constables only at the close of the year. Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining a good stamp of Shan recruits from Hsipaw and Kyaukmè but more Kachins were enlisted than usual. In places where the circle headman was energetic and honest, good work was done by the village police in the arrest of cattle thieves and the detection of crime.

The number of offences reported rose from 798 to 900. This figure however includes 161 cases of cattle straying. Violent crimes dealt with in Government Courts increased by two, but fell off by three in State Courts. Cattle theft has shown a slight increase in most courts, and a tendency among State Magistrates to let off cattle thieves with fines has had to be checked. The number of Civil cases filed in Government Courts decreased from 213 to 149, but in State Courts the number was practically unchanged. The rains were badly distributed, some damage was caused by hail and floods, and the crops were somewhat below normal. Cattle disease caused serious losses in the different States. Revenue on teak extracted by Messrs. The Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, Limited, increased by Rs. 20,555 to Rs. 32,164 and the total forest revenue realized was Rs. 63,254. The forest establishment is reported to be insufficient. The finances of the Burma Mines Company, Limited, have been reorganized, and a large amount of development work was carried out during the year. The total tonnage treated at the smelter was 51,482 tons. The trade with Burma is considered in Chapter IV. The amount expended from State Funds on Public Works during the year was Rs. 5·47 lakhs. The construction and maintenance of roads and bridges absorbed the greater part of this sum. Work was hampered by the want of labour and the high price of timber. The Hsipaw Public Works Subdivision was split into two during the year. The total number of persons treated in the hospitals and dispensaries of the States rose from 33,007 to 37,466. No cases of plague and cholera were reported during the year, but a mysterious epidemic occurred in Tawngpeng. Small-pox appeared in a virulent form at the close of the year in the North Hsenwi State. The number of registered schools in the States rose from 28 to 29, and of pupils from 1,320 to 1,515; but educational progress is slow and is impeded by the dearth of Shan-speaking teachers.

The total revenue of the Northern Shan States was Rs. 12·42 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 11·20 lakhs as compared with Rs. 12·23 lakhs and Rs. 12·19 lakhs respectively in the previous year. For the first time for some years the income of the State of Hsipaw exceeded the expenditure; the income amounted to Rs. 5·81 lakhs, and the expenditure to Rs. 5·32 lakhs, and the year

closed with a balance of Rs. 1·52 lakh. Reliable figures are again not available for the State of Manglün. The financial position of South Hsenwi is improving, and the outlook for the State is distinctly promising. The States of Tawngpeng and North Hsenwi both closed the year with satisfactory balances.

Other Shan States.

7. There is little to note in the history of the State of Möng Mit. The people are prosperous, the finances are sound, and there is little or no serious crime. The Chief continues to take a keen interest in the affairs of the State. The revenue of the State amounted to Rs. 1·68 lakh, and the expenditure to Rs. 1·86 lakh, but there was a closing balance of Rs. 72,365. The main sources of revenue such as the *thathameda*, *taungya*, and land revenue taxes show a steady increase. The boundary between the State and Bhamo was settled during the year.

The year has been an uneventful one in the Shan States of Thaungthut and Kanti in the Upper Chindwin District. The health of the people and cattle continued to be satisfactory. The crops in Thaungthut were good, but in Kanti they suffered from shortage of rain. Trade was prosperous in both States.

(*ii*) *The Chin Hills.*

[*The Chin Hills proper: area (approximately) 8,000 square miles, population 119,556; the Pakôkku Hill Tracts: area (approximately) 2,200 square miles, population 17,128; Hill District of Arakan: area 1,500 square miles, population 22,234; and tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts.*]

8. The administrative border of the Chin Hills remained unchanged during the year, but the question of revising the boundaries between the administered and unadministered territories is under consideration. The administered hill-tracts on the north-western frontier of Burma enjoyed peace and quiet during the year, and the unadministered tribes gave no trouble. Towards the end of the year the death occurred of Komyang the Kongsai Chief who had been steadly consolidating his supremacy in the Somra tract between the Naga Hills and the Upper Chindwin District. There was one case of kidnapping in the Pakôkku Chin Hills by the trans-frontier village of Zang-im-nu, but otherwise the relations with trans-frontier Chins in this region were cordial. Of three cases of kidnapping from administered territory in the Arakan Hill Tracts, two have been settled satisfactorily, and one remained under enquiry at the end of the year. Internally there is little of interest to record. The regular crops were below the average in the northern hills, but exceptionally good in Haka. The cultivation of wheat was resumed by the Chins, but climatic conditions were against a good crop. An experimental sugarcane plantation has been started in the Falam Subdivision. The spread of leprosy still continues. It has not yet been found feasible to open the proposed leper asylum at Falam, but the project has not been abandoned. There has been an increase by nearly 50 per cent. in the number of patients treated in the Civil hospitals, and by over 50 per cent. in the number of persons vaccinated. Education is progressing satisfactorily. Two cases in which villagers refused to pay certain tribal dues were effectually dealt with, but, with increased intercourse with the plains, and the spread of wealth and civilization, there are signs of a gradual weakening of the old respect for the tribal authority of the Chiefs. The collections of tribute amounted to Rs. 66,648 in the main Chin Hills, and to Rs. 3,977 in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts.

(*iii*) *The Kachin Hills.*

[*Tracts in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha Districts.*]

9. For the third year in succession an expedition moved up the Mali *hka* into Hkāmti Lōng, but on this occasion instead of withdrawing all forces at the beginning of the rains, the Government established permanent posts at Putao in Hkāmti Lōng, at Konglu between Putao and the 'Nmai *hka* and at Laza

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between Myitkyina and Putao. The area north of Myitkyina thus taken under administration has since the end of the year of report been formed into the new District of Putao. The Civil officers have already made extensive tours within their charges, and have everywhere met with a friendly reception. The problem of the north-east frontier of Burma, which has occupied much attention in recent years, now appears in a fair way to settlement. As regards trans-frontier incidents the year was uneventful. Only two trans-border raids of minor importance were reported. The Laban-'Ngan feud is still unsettled, as the 'Ngan people unfortunately rejected the Laban overtures. Our relations with the Chinese have been very friendly, and the ordinary frontier meetings have been resumed. Meetings for the disposal of frontier cases at Simapa and Naungma resulted in the settlement of a large number of the Myitkyina and Bhamo cases. The amount of violent crime in the north-east frontier Districts was about normal. There was a small increase in the number of violent crimes reported, but on investigation four cases reported as murders in the hill-tracts of Bhamo and Myitkyina were found to be merely an exercise of the right of self-defence. Drink was the cause of a large proportion of the murders. In one case four trans-border Kachins unfortunately succeeded in escaping across the border after murdering a woman and her two children. The total number of criminal cases of all kinds instituted during the year in the Myitkyina Hills rose from 109 to 127. Thirty-two cases were pending at the end of the year, including 18 cases of former years in the majority of which the accused persons have fled across the border and cannot be traced. In Bhamo 87 cases were instituted as compared with 83 in 1912-13, and 7 were left pending. The number of cattle theft cases in Bhamo remained stationary. In the Katha District 18 cases were instituted of which 3 were under the Indian Penal Code, as compared with 13 and 4 in the previous year. Three villages were fined under section 13 of the Kachin Hill Tribes Regulation in the Myitkyina District, and the same number in the Sinlumkaba Tract of Bhamo. Civil cases, the number of which increased considerably in Bhamo, were mostly of a petty nature. The collections of tribute fell from Rs. 50,549 to Rs. 49,693, a small decrease occurring in each of the three Districts. Seizures of opium in the Myitkyina District rose from 2,085 tolas to 9,831 tolas. In Bhamo large seizures were constantly made although no Excise staff is kept in the hills, and poppy cultivation is reported to be increasing in the Sinlumkaba Hill Tracts. The reservation of three new forest areas was notified in the Myitkyina District, and two reserves were finally notified in Bhamo. Royalty on rubber shows a further decline from Rs. 7,490 to Rs. 2,363. The revival in the trade in jadestone continues, and the quantity exported during the year was valued at Rs. 2·16 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·53 lakh in the previous year. The value of gold won by the Burma Gold Dredging Company rose from Rs. 2·90 lakhs to Rs. 3·06 lakhs. The graded and bridged road from Htawgaw to Hpimaw in the Myitkyina District was completed during the year, and considerable progress has been made in opening up communications between Myitkyina and Putao. In the Bhamo District Rs. 3,324 was spent on roads in the Sinlum Hills under the direction of Civil Officers, and thanks to the indefatigable industry of the Reverend Father Gilhodes, a Roman Catholic Missionary, the Hkauri country is being opened up with an excellent network of roads.

Condition of the People.

10. The Province enjoyed another prosperous season and all classes of the agricultural population benefited from the comparatively good harvests and the high level of prices. The immigration from Upper Burma was not sufficient to deal with the harvest in Pyapôn, and higher wages had to be paid for reaping. In Upper Burma, and especially in the Shwebo, Sagaing, Mandalay, and Kyauksè Districts, co-operation appears to have bettered the condition of the peasant-proprietor considerably. His debts are less and his reserve is greater than in former years. The people of the dry zone have had two successful years in succession, and are in a comparatively prosperous

condition. The extension of irrigation in the Môn area of the Minbu District has placed the tenants of the Man and Salin irrigation systems in a position of greater independence. The demand for labour on the rubber estates in Amherst and for mining in Mergui has enhanced the rates paid in these Districts to the day labourer. This has not directly benefited the peasant owner, but it has improved the position of the agricultural labourer. The year was on the whole a healthy one. The death-rate fell, especially in towns, and the ravages of epidemic diseases were comparatively light.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1914.
Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realization of the Revenue.

Demand, collections, remissions and outstandings.

11. Excluding the amounts creditable to cess and irrigation, the land revenue demand for the year 1913-14 was Rs. 289·50 lakhs as compared with Rs. 281·75 lakhs in 1912-13. The increase of Rs. 7·75 lakhs was considerably smaller than the Rs. 20·69 lakhs recorded for the previous year. But although suffering in some respects by a comparison with last year's abnormal conditions, the year was again marked by a combination of favourable agricultural conditions. Except in the Thatôn and Amherst Districts Lower Burma practically escaped damage by floods, and cultivation was generally extended. In Upper Burma, although the season was not quite so excellent on the whole as in 1912-13, it was still distinctly above the average in most of the important revenue-producing Districts. For the second year in succession the Hanthawaddy and Insein Districts enjoyed immunity from serious floods, which had almost come to be regarded from the experience of the previous few years as an inevitable annual infliction. In the latter District the introduction of revised settlement rates and extensions of cultivation caused the demand to rise by over Rs. 3 lakhs. Pegu, Tharrawaddy and Toungoo also enjoyed successful seasons, but disastrous floods in the Pa-an Township caused a fall of 34,692 acres in the assessed area and of a corresponding amount in the demand for the Thatôn District. The agricultural conditions in the five Delta Districts were again generally favourable, and the total demand for the Division rose by Rs. 2·22 lakhs. The largest increases were in Pyapôn and Myaungmya. All the Arakan Coast Districts report increases of assessed area and of demand, due mainly to extensions of cultivation and the assessment of grants on which the periods of exemption had expired. The three Districts together show an increase of Rs. 47,246 in demand. On the Tenasserim seaboard the relinquishment of land in the Kawkareik Subdivision on account of severe floods largely counterbalanced an increase of assessed area elsewhere in the Amherst District. The demand in this District however rose by Rs. 87,346 owing to the introduction of revised settlement rates in part of the District, and the substitution of maximum for intermediate rates in the remainder. In Thayetmyo the rains were poor, and rats destroyed *taungya* paddy in the Mindon and Minhla Townships to a serious extent. The result was a fall in demand by Rs. 21,597. In the dry zone of Upper Burma agricultural conditions were on the whole good, but fell somewhat short of those of the previous year. The introduction of enhanced settlement rates in the Pyinmana Subdivision of the Yamèthin District, however, sufficed to convert a decline in the total demand for the tract into a small increase. The Sagaing and the Lower Chindwin Districts both had prosperous years and increased their assessed areas, and the total demand for the Myingyan District was the highest on record for twelve years. In Meiktila insufficiency of rain and failure of irrigation resulted in a decline of Rs. 44,078 in demand. Magwe suffered from a marked failure of rain, and for the second year in succession had a conspicuously poor season. In the irrigated tracts Shwebo enjoyed favourable

rains and with the help of extended and improved irrigation recorded an increase in demand by Rs. 96,292.

The total amount of land revenue remitted was slightly larger than in the previous year—Rs. 2·05 lakhs compared with Rs. 1·81 lakh. The Districts chiefly responsible for the increase were Amherst, Thatôn, and Ma-ubin. The damage done to crops by the serious floods already referred to was responsible for remissions amounting to Rs. 54,933 in Amherst and Thatôn, and heavy remissions had to be made on account of the damage done by rats in the Pantanaw Township of the Ma-ubin District. In Upper Burma the principal amounts remitted were Rs. 7,307 in Minbu on account of the depredations of rats, Rs. 6,647 in Mandalay, partly on account of floods and partly on account of shortage of rain in the upland tracts, and Rs. 4,543 in Katha on account of damage done by hail. The total collections of land revenue amounted to Rs. 287·30 lakhs, and exceeded those of the previous year by about Rs. 7½ lakhs. The increase corresponds very approximately with the increase in demand.

Revenue proceedings and coercive processes.

12. The total amount under all heads of land revenue for which application was made for process was Rs. 7·39 lakhs, and the amount realized, Rs. 6·19 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 7·44 lakhs and Rs. 5·91 lakhs, respectively, in the previous year. The percentage of recovery shows a rise from 79·5 to 83·8 in spite of a marked decrease in the number of every kind of process issued. It is natural that recovery without coercion should be easier in the second of two successive years of prosperity than the first. Warrants of arrest and warrants for the attachment of property were each fewer in number by nearly 3,000. The number of persons actually arrested shows a fall of 34 per cent., and that of cases in which property was sold a fall of 30 per cent. The number of persons committed to jail was 32, the same as in the previous year.

Surveys.

Surveys by Imperial agency.

13. During the year of report topographical survey operations were continued by Nos. 10 and 11 Parties of the Survey of India in the Myitkyina and Katha Districts of Upper Burma and in the Tavoy District of Lower Burma. An area of approximately 7,270 square miles was surveyed, partly on the one-inch and partly on the two-inch scales. Triangulation was also carried out with a view to detail survey next season in the Myitkyina District and in the Hukong Valley across the administrative border, and in the north of the Mergui District. Tidal operations were continued during the year by No. 16 Survey Party at Rangoon and Moulmein. Levelling operations were in progress in the Magwe District, in the Southern Shan States and the Meiktila District, and in the Amherst District.

Surveys by Provincial agency: Extension and Revision surveys.

14. Demarcation in advance of original cadastral survey was undertaken in the Kyaukpyu and Thayetmyo Districts. In Kyaukpyu an area of 36 square miles was demarcated. The work was scattered and comparatively difficult and the cost amounted to Rs. 25 per square mile. In Thayetmyo an area of approximately 202 square miles was demarcated at a cost of Rs. 6-8-0 per square mile. The demarcation was followed by extension surveys conducted by the special survey party, and 16,254 occupied acres were surveyed in the Kyaukpyu and 19,182 in the Thayetmyo District. In Thayetmyo the gross area surveyed was 122 square miles only, and it is doubtful whether the remaining 80 square miles, which have been demarcated, are worth surveying. The average cost of extension surveys in the two Districts was 13 annas per occupied acre. The special revision survey party proceeded with the revision and extension surveys of the Akyab District begun in the previous year. The field work of the revision survey programme was completed and 72,580 occupied acres were dealt with. The party also revised the survey of 7,130 acres in the Sandoway District. The total cost of revision survey worked out at 5 annas per occupied acre.

CHAP. II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND. Town and Fishery surveys and surveys of leased areas.

15. Town Survey work was restricted to the demarcation and survey of the small railway town of Hmawbi and to a continuation of the revision survey operations in Rangoon Town. The year of report is the fourth year in which the scheme for revision surveys has been in operation in Rangoon Town. The total area surveyed on the scale of 100 feet to the inch was 1,986 acres, and that on the scale of 50 feet to the inch only 20 acres. The season's outturn per man employed was extremely low, and 6 of the 14 blocks for resurvey remained untouched. The cost, inclusive of recess work, amounted to Rs. 2-15-0 per acre. No fishery surveys were carried out during the year.

Potta surveys were conducted, chiefly by special agency, in seven districts. The Kyaukpyu District, where there was a belated disbursement of fees collected in the previous year, is the only District where the fees realized were less than the charges incurred on survey. In Akyab the bulk of the *pottas* was disposed of by the Revenue Surveyors, while in Sandoway one *potta* surveyor employed in each Township attended to the proceedings initiated therein. In Amherst the surveys related chiefly to accretions on the west coast of the Chaungzôn Township, and in the mouths of the Salween river. The area applied for for rubber cultivation declined, while there was no demand for cotton, but for the first time a few applications were received for cultivation of the Citronella oil plant. As *pottas* have been suspended in the Magwe Division no surveys in this connection are now made in Pakôkku and Minbu, but in Pakôkku the demarcation and survey of certain areas under mining leases or prospecting licenses to various companies for mineral mining purposes were undertaken by special surveyors paid out of the fees deposited under the Burma Mining Rules. In Minbu the survey of 7½-acre blocks in tracts receiving or about to receive irrigation from the two Môn Canals and the new distributary of the Môn Canal was continued. Most of the blocks were allotted, regular leases being exceptional and issued only in cases where there were actual disputes or a probability of such arising. The operations were under the Special Lease Officer and cost Rs. 214. The survey fee charged in the case of leases was eight annas per acre, but the area was small and the amount recovered was Rs. 29 only.

Settlements.

Progress of Settlements.

16. Settlement operations were again carried on by six parties throughout the year. These parties were at work in all on 12 settlements. The settlements in the Districts of Myingyan, Bassein (First Circuit), Toungoo, Pyapôn (First Circuit) and Pegu (First Circuit) were completed during the year; progress was made with the settlement of Henzada and the Second Circuits of Bassein, Pegu and Insein; and new settlements were commenced in Thayetmyo, Akyab and Tharrawaddy. The occupied area over which soil classification and the connected operations were completed measured 1,393,000 acres, giving an average outturn of 232,000 acres per party. The average outturn compares very unfavourably with the previous year's figures, and is considerably below the average of 250,000 acres which has been adopted as the standard for an ordinary party working under normal conditions. This is explained by the fact that in Thayetmyo holding marking had to be done as well as soil classification, and the outturn of the party working in that district was therefore small.

Financial results and expenditure.

17. The revised rates following the Yamèthin, Amherst and Insein Settlements, which were sanctioned in the previous year, came into effect on the 1st July 1913 and produced an immediate enhancement of demand of about Rs. 4½ lakhs. The first circuits of the Bassein, Pyapôn and Pegu Settlements, and the Rangoon Town and Myaungmya settlements were sanctioned during the year. The result in Bassein will be to raise the demand by Rs. 1·12 lakh to Rs. 5·58 lakhs, in Pegu by Rs 2·89 lakhs to Rs. 10·11 lakhs, and in Myaungmya by Rs. 1·71 lakh to Rs. 6·95 lakhs, whilst the rates sanctioned in Pyapôn will cause an enhancement of 24½ per cent. The total result of the five settlements will be to enhance the rates by 33·62 per cent. of the current settlements. The expenditure during the year on the six parties was Rs. 4,98,014. The addition of Rs. 32,000

as representing the settlement share of the Settlement Commissioner's office brings the total cost of the department to about Rs. 5·30 lakhs. For the five circuits actually completed during the year, settlement operations cost Rs. 115 per square mile of gross area, or about five and a half annas per occupied acre.

Land Records.

Area under Supplementary Survey.

18. The area of 50,011 square miles given in last year's Report as the total rural area under supplementary survey has since been discovered to be wrong. The actual area for that year was 51,330 square miles, and this has been increased to 51,452 in the year 1913-14. The increase of 122 square miles is mostly due to accretions of land on the Sittang estuary in Pegu. The rural assessment aggregated Rs. 3,23·92 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 8·12 lakhs on the record figures of the previous year. Expansion was only partly the cause of this increase; other factors were the enforcement of new assessment rates following the settlements in Insein and parts of the Amherst and Yamèthin Districts, and the substitution of full for intermediate rates in parts of the Sandoway, Pyapôn and Amherst Districts. The urban area continued to expand, and the total area now under supplementary survey in towns is 245 square miles as compared with 243 square miles in the year 1912-13. One additional town was brought under supplementary survey during the year. The town assessments credited to Government rose by Rs. 13,026 to Rs. 10,46,845. Municipal assessments on covered and uncovered areas, which are made by the Land Records Department, totalled Rs. 5,35,089 as compared with Rs. 4,64,868 in the previous year.

Cost of Supplementary Survey.

19. The total cost of supplementary survey was Rs. 15·43 lakhs as compared with Rs. 15·48 lakhs in 1912-13. The death and retirement of *taikthugyis* caused nominal additions to be made to the staffs in several Lower Burma Districts, and thereby swelled the figures for total cost. But the absence of fewer men on privilege leave, and an accounts ruling as to the pay to be drawn by officiating men caused the amount paid in salaries to surveyors to decline by Rs. 10,132. Contingencies, which were abnormally high in 1912-13, also fell by Rs. 4,976. The total cost of the department was 4·54 per cent. of the total assessment as compared with 4·68 per cent. in the previous year, and the average cost per occupied area fell from As. 1·468 to As. 1·447.

Training of Officers.

20. At the beginning of the year there were 19 survey schools in the Province. The school at Prome was closed during October 1913, reducing the number to 18 at the end of the year. The Insein school remains on the list but was placed under the control of the Headmaster of the Government School of Engineering during the year. The total number of pupils on the rolls of all the schools fell from 314 in March 1913 to 254 in March 1914. The total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 38,202, and the total income to Rs. 3,267. The net cost was therefore Rs. 34,935, or Rs. 821 less than the net cost in the year 1912-13; but the cost per pupil as based on the attendances for the entire school term has risen from Rs. 106 to Rs. 133. The results obtained at the Syndicate Examination of April 1914 were disappointing. The percentage of passes in surveying was only 43, the lowest on record for many years, and, in the opinion of the examiners, this was largely due to defective tuition. The results in the examinations in revenue law show an improvement on the previous year, but in arithmetic the percentage of passes fell from 71 to 57. The Amherst school did well, but generally the schools of Upper Burma were more successful than those of Lower Burma. In ten Districts, Superintendents failed to hold the prescribed examination for apprentices, the reasons assigned in most cases being that the apprentices who should have been examined were acting in Survey charges and could not be called in. In those Districts where the examination was held, 124 out of 181 candidates were successful, but there appears to be a considerable difference in the standard set at the examination by different Superintendents. The instruction camp at Tavoy for Probationary Assistant Superintendents was abolished during the year, and the two probationers at the

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camp were transferred to No. 10 Survey of India Party at Maymyo, where they completed their training. A scheme was prepared during the year to replace the abandoned Dehra Dun training by local training.

Transfers of land.

21. The statistics of land transactions in Lower Burma for the year show that confidence continues in land as an investment. Though there has been a slight fall in the area sold from 527,000 to 513,000 acres, the area mortgaged shows the large rise of 73,000 acres to 369,000 acres. The area redeemed has fallen from 188,000 to 179,000 acres. The sale rate rose from Rs. 48 to Rs. 55 per acre, and the mortgage rate from Rs. 38 to Rs. 43. The figures given by most Districts do not warrant fears of the immediate domination of the non-resident landlord. In the Thatôn and Amherst Districts it appears as if the agriculturist is recovering land he had lost. In the Prome District where crops were poor and one would naturally expect the capitalist to improve his position, there has been only an insignificant transfer of land to non-agriculturists. In several Districts the reasons given for the increase of the area mortgaged is the desire of the agriculturist and capitalist who own land to raise capital for speculation in rice, or to increase the area of land held. The Chetty money-lenders and co-operative societies have all assisted in extending facilities for raising loans to the agriculturist. The Districts showing the greatest increase in the area mortgaged during the year are Tharrawaddy, Pegu, Ma-ubin and Pyapôn. The boom in sales of land in the Pyapôn District has somewhat subsided during the year, and one of the reasons given is that the District revenue authorities have taken action against unauthorized transfers. In Upper Burma the area sold rose from 47,000 to 53,000 acres, and the area mortgaged from 8,000 to 13,000 acres. The sale rate decreased slightly, but the mortgage rate rose from Rs. 32 to Rs. 36 an acre. The chief increases in the areas sold were reported from Sagaing, Pakôkku and Yamèthin. The reasons given in each case are different. It is almost impossible to summarise the causes affecting land transfers, as sentiment, traditions, and local conditions are often determining factors and these do not appear in statistics. The total area in the whole Province under non-usufructuary mortgage at the end of the year was 1,407,000 acres as compared with 1,214,000 acres in the previous year.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

22. The area of land granted or leased for cultivation fell from 32,600 acres to 13,125 acres. There was a very marked falling off in the area leased for rubber cultivation. The total area granted or leased in the Tenasserim Division fell from 19,663 to 3,836 acres, and there were corresponding decreases in the other Districts in which rubber planting has been most widely tried, namely, Insein, Pegu and Myitkyina. Grants or leases for paddy and similar cultivation were only issued in special cases, where heavy expenditure was required for reclamation or embanking, or where allotment was desirable to prevent disputes. The allotment of land irrigated from the Môn Canal in the Minbu District was completed during the year, and a considerably larger number of leases was issued than during the previous year. Leases continued to be issued for all newly occupied land in the special lease areas of Hanthawaddy and Insein, but it was decided that these areas were larger than was necessary or desirable, and their reduction to more manageable limits was ordered.

Revenue-free grants of land and assignments of land revenue.

23. The area granted for religious and public purposes was 40 acres less than in the previous year. Grants for the former purpose included one of 15 acres to the Roman Catholic Mission in Myaungmya in consideration of the surrender of a smaller area previously held on the bank of a river which threatened their church with erosion, and one in Insein of 9 acres, the site of an old pagoda which had long been occupied for religious purposes without a title. The area allotted as an appanage of the office of headmen (*thugyisa*) increased by 496 acres. The largest area, 361 acres, was again in the Sagaing District. Additional

assignments of land revenue were made during the year to the value of Rs. 1,540 as compared with Rs. 1,401 in the previous year. The total value of such assignments at the end of the year was Rs. 55,872.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

24. The character of the land tenures in Burma is fully explained in paragraph 39 *et seq.* of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12. Apart from Government land of the kinds therein described there are no Government estates in the special sense of particular cultivated areas managed by Government after the fashion of a private landlord. There are no wards' estates.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

Area held by agriculturists.

25. The area occupied by agriculturists was 14,578,791 acres, or slightly over 86 per cent. of the whole occupied area under supplementary survey. The area owned by resident non-agriculturists was 934,880 acres, some 6,604 acres less than in the preceding year, but the area in the ownership of non-agriculturists, who are also non-resident, has increased by 6,030 acres and now amounts to 1,533,996 acres. Partly these differences are due to a stricter definition of the terms "resident" and "non-resident," but it would also appear that the peasant-proprietor had improved his position during the year at the expense of the resident non-agriculturist. In Lower Burma there are four Districts—Hanthawaddy Insein, Ma-ubin, and Pyapôn—in which the area owned by agriculturists is less than three-quarters of the total occupied area; the percentage is lowest in Hanthawaddy where it is only 57. In Upper Burma it is only in areas where security is guaranteed by irrigation that the non-agriculturist ventures his capital.

Tenancies.

26. The area let at full rent continues to increase, and was 152,958 acres more in the year of report than in 1912-13. The average rental per acre for the Province was 14·2 rupees, as against 13·59 rupees in the previous year. Most of the rice-producing Districts show an increase in rental, the increase in Pegu, Thatôn and Amherst being almost Rs. 3 an acre. In the three Districts—Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy and Myaungmya—the average rent was as high as Rs. 17 an acre. The figures are however somewhat elusive, as they represent only the rent agreed upon which in many cases is not the rent actually paid. Each of the six Districts of Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Bassein, Myaungmya and Pyapôn reports an increase of over 10,000 acres let to tenants for the year at full rates. Flooding in the Kawkareik Subdivision, however, resulted in a considerable decrease of area rented in the Amherst District, and a still greater decrease is reported from the Toungoo District. Mandalay, Yamèthin and Myingyan are the only three Upper Burma Districts in which the total area rented exceeds 10,000 acres. The fall of Rs. 4 in rental value in Minbu is attributed to the greater independence amongst tenants who, if dissatisfied, proceeded as pioneers into the irrigated Môn area. The formation of a settled tenant class still progresses but slowly. The holdings rented continuously for five years have increased by 2,470, but the number of tenants who have for five years continuously worked the same holding has only increased by 465. A peculiarity about the statistics of continuous tenancy for five years is that the steady increase in Lower Burma of over thirteen hundred has been neutralized by a decrease of over eight hundred in Upper Burma.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1913.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1913.
Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma for the year 1913.
Report on the measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes in Burma during the year 1913.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1913.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1913.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1913.
Report on the working of the Registration Department in Burma during the three years 1911 to 1913.
Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1913-14.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1913-14.
Resolution reviewing the Reports on the working of Municipalities in Burma during the year 1913-14.
Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Buildings and Roads Branch), excluding Irrigation, for the year 1913-14.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon from the 1st April 1913 to the 31st March 1914.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1913-14, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1913-14.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistics of British India, Parts II, V, VI and VIII.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1913-14.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the Legislative Authority of the Province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Course of Legislation.

Work of Legislative Council.

27. The Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Bill, referred to in the Report of the preceding year, passed into law as Burma Act No. I of 1913 during the Legislative year which ended on the 31st March 1914. Three Bills were also introduced into Council during this year, *viz.*, the Burma Village Amendment Bill, 1914, the Burma Outports Bill, 1914, and the Burma Canal Amendment Bill, 1914, but these Bills did not become law till after the close of the year of report.

The Burma Land and Revenue Amendment Act (Burma Act I of 1913) is mainly a measure of decentralization. Under the law as it stood before the enacting of this measure all rules under the (Lower) Burma Land and Revenue Act, 1876, and certain of the rules under the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889, made by the Local Government, required the previous sanction of the Government of India before they could come into force. The Act does

away with this previous sanction and enacts instead that the rules shall be subject to the control of the Government of India. Other changes effected by it with reference to Upper Burma are the transfer to the Local Government of the power of control exercised by the Government of India in regard to rules issued by the Financial Commissioner for the disposal of State land which is waste and the giving of fuller power to the Local Government in regard to differential assessments on lands other than State lands in Upper Burma. It effects also certain other changes in the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, the most important of which are designed to bring the Regulation into harmony with the Burma Towns Act, 1907, and the Burma Village Act, 1907.

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28. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year:—

General Acts affecting Burma.

General Acts of 1914.

I.—The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1914.
II.—The Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914.
III.—The Indian Copyright Act, 1914.
IV.—The Decentralization Act, 1914.
V.—The Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 1914.
VI —The Provincial Small Cause Courts (Amendment) Act, 1914.
VII.—The Indian Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 1914.
VIII.—The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914.
IX.—The Local Authorities Loans Act, 1914.
X.—The Repealing and Amending Act, 1914.
XI.—The Indian Companies (Amendment) Act, 1914.

All these Acts, with the solitary exception of Act VIII, came into force during the year of report. Of the General Acts which were passed before the commencement of this year, Act V of 1913 (the White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Act), with the exception of section 6, came into force on the 1st July 1913, and Acts II, III, and VII of 1913 (the Official Trustees Act, the Administrator-General's Act and the Indian Companies Act) came into force on the 1st April 1914.

29. Only one Regulation affecting Burma, namely, the Upper Burma Registration Amendment Regulation (IV of 1913), was enacted during the year. By it the Upper Burma Regulation, 1897, was repealed to make way for the Indian Registration Act and the usual saving provisions as regards previous registration were made by sections 2 and 3.

Regulations affecting Burma.

30. Certain sections of the Burma Fisheries Act, 1905 (with modifications), were extended to the State of Möng Mit. The Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, the Opium Act, 1878 (with modifications), with the exception of certain sections, the Indian Arms Act, 1878, the Excise Act, 1896, the Burma Gambling Act, 1899, and sections 22 and 26 and Chapter IV of the Upper Burma Land and Revenue Regulation, 1889 (with modifications), were extended to the notified area of Kalaw in the State of Hsa Möng Hkam.

Extension of Enactments to Shan States.

Police.

31. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police-force at the close of the year (excluding the Rangoon Town Police) was 1,486 officers and 14,316 men as compared with 1,470 officers and 14,164 men at the close of the year 1912. The cadre of Inspectors was increased during the year by 4 appointments and increases were also sanctioned of 12 Sub-Inspectors, 23 head constables and 129 constables. The actual strength however fell still further

Civil Police: strength, recruitment and cost.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

below the sanctioned strength, the shortage at the end of the year being 1,003 officers and men as against 840 at the end of the previous year. During the year sanction was given to the raising from 15 to 30 of the percentage of vacancies in the grade of Sub-Inspectors to be filled by promotion from the ranks. It is hoped that the improvement thereby caused in the prospects of promotion from the lower ranks will help to remove one of the chief reasons for the unpopularity of the service. Meanwhile the recruitment of Burmans throughout the Province was carried on with great difficulty and in many Districts it was found necessary to admit an inferior class of men to prevent the shortage from being even greater than it was. No difficulty has been experienced in the entertainment of Indians, and the recruitment of Chins and Kachins was conspicuously successful. The total cost of the force fell from Rs. 61·74 lakhs to Rs. 61·66 lakhs. The amount payable by persons or companies under sections 13 and 14 of the Police Act declined, and there was a small increase in the cost payable from Imperial or Provincial Revenues to Rs. 59·99 lakhs. The cost for a full year being entered instead of that for nine months only caused a large increase in the Insein District. In most Districts however shortage of strength and the absence of payments of special bonus has caused a decrease in the cost of the force.

Punitive Police employed under section 15 of the Police Act cost Rs. 2·17 lakhs.

Conduct, education, and training.

32. The number of dismissals fell from 557 to 525 whilst the number of officers and men sentenced by Courts was almost the same as in 1912. Desertions rose from 228 to 235 and there was also a slight increase in the number of resignations without pension. The general conduct and discipline of the force is reported to have been satisfactory. Cases of violence to persons, of ill-treatment of prisoners, or of wrongful confinement, were commendably few and in nearly every case the police-officer concerned was removed or dismissed from the force. The number of rewards granted to officers and men increased. The Police Friendly Society at Ma-ubin did not work very satisfactorily during the year. Several District Superintendents have been in correspondence with the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, with a view to starting societies in their Districts, but no fresh society was actually formed during the year. The percentage of literates to the total strength of the force has risen and now stands at rather over 87. The illiterate are chiefly Indians and men of Frontier tribes. The number of old constables trained during the year was 2,807, an increase of 226 over the figures for 1912. Of recruits 2,189 underwent training at the District training depôts, and 1,320 appeared for the qualifying examination of whom 1,235 passed. The percentage of success at the quarterly examinations was 92 as compared with 93 in 1912. There was an increase in the number of men who went through the annual course of musketry training, and the results also improved slightly. The Provincial Training School at Mandalay had another successful year, although there was a considerable amount of sickness amongst the cadets.

Buildings.

33. The sum allotted to expenditure on Civil Police buildings outside Rangoon during the year amounted to Rs. 2,41,300. For departmental petty construction and repairs a further allotment of Rs. 1,90,000 was made. In most Districts however housing is still in a very backward condition, and the renting of houses for officers and men for whom no accommodation exists cost Rs. 79,997. Little was done during the year to improve the accommodation in police lock-ups but the sum of half a lakh of rupees has been provided for this purpose in the Budget for 1914-15.

Crime and the working of the Police.

34. True cases of cognizable crime fell in number by 1,468 to 41,299, but the decrease is mainly in minor offences. Violent crimes show a slight decrease of 69, the figures being 1,438 as compared with 1,507 in 1912, but the total for 1913 is still considerably in excess of the totals for 1911 and earlier years. The number of cases in which firearms were used shows a slight increase as compared with 1912. It is noticeable that the bulk of the more serious crime is found in the Pegu

and Irrawaddy Divisions. The total number of serious offences against the person was 5,288; 2,683 of them including 244 murders out of 449 were committed in these two Divisions. Similarly under the head "serious offences against person and property or against property only" there were in the Province 5,083 offences, including 184 dacoities and 529 robberies, of which the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions claim 2,683 with 125 dacoities and 294 robberies. These two Divisions are thus responsible for more than half the serious crime in the Province.

In the Pegu Division the Hanthawaddy District records a decrease of 59 in the total number of serious offences against person and property or property only. Robberies have decreased from 30 to 24 but dacoities have risen to 25, more than double the figures for 1912, and the use of firearms in these cases has increased. In the Insein District murders decreased by nine, but other serious offences against the person have increased. Dacoities have fallen from 28 to 13. In Pegu 12 dacoities were disposed of as against 8 in 1912, and 41 robberies against 27. Four murders were committed in dacoities and robberies, and firearms were used in 8 cases. Both Tharrawaddy and Prome record an improvement. In Tharrawaddy the number of murders declined from 56 to 26, and of dacoities and robberies from 58 to 42, whilst the number of house-breaking cases declined by 80. In Prome the number of serious offences against the person has increased slightly, but cases of kidnapping for ransom have fallen from 9 to 2, and dacoities and robberies from 42 to 34. In Bassein the number of murders, attempts at murder, and culpable homicide increased by 9 cases, and hurt and grievous hurt by 56 cases. There were 11 dacoities in 5 of which firearms were used. In Myaungmya serious offences against the person increased by 37 and robberies from 14 to 34. There was a serious increase in murders and hurt cases in Ma-ubin. In Pyapôn there was a decrease of 10 murders, but a considerable increase in violent crime generally. Henzada records an improvement in murder and attempts at murder, robberies and dacoities, but reports 13 cases in which firearms were used. In the Tenasserim Division, Thatôn records a remarkable reduction of crime. Firearms were used in 13 cases of violent crime in Amherst, and in 6 dacoities and one robbery in Toungoo. From the Arakan Division, a general decline in the more serious forms of crime is reported from the Akyab District, and a decrease in dacoities and robberies from the Kyaukpyu District. Against a decrease of 16 murders in Minbu must be set an increase in the other Districts of the Magwe Division. Serious cases against person and property or property only have declined in this Division by 18. In the Mandalay Division there was a reduction in the number of murders, attempts at murder and cases of grievous and ordinary hurt but robberies and serious house-breaking cases increased. In the Meiktila Division, the Meiktila and Myingyan Districts record increases in the number of serious offences against the person, and Yamèthin a decrease. In the last named District a general reduction in crime is noticeable. As regards less serious offences a satisfactory feature of the year is the decrease in theft. Cattle-thefts increased slightly from 3,089 to 3,101 but ordinary thefts declined from 10,518 to 9,169. Many of the cattle-thefts are reported to have been committed for the sake of the hides, the trade in which flourished during the year. The percentage of cases investigated by the police which resulted in conviction rose from 65 to 69.

Excluding petty cases the percentage of convictions to cases tried was 84, but of all cases finally disposed of only 56 per cent. ended in conviction. The total value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 18·39 lakhs, 28 per cent. of which was recovered.

Important incidents.

35. The number of kidnapping cases was slightly less than in 1912, but one particularly bad case is reported from the Tharrawaddy District. A boy of 12 years old disappeared, and an anonymous letter was received demanding Rs. 1,000 for his return. The money was placed on the spot indicated in the letter and taken away, but nothing more has been heard of the boy and it is supposed he has been murdered. A reward of Rs. 1,000 has been offered in this case without result. In Myaungmya a head constable, who had just arrested an absconder and was looking for others at a *pwè* was murdered by their friends. A triple murder is reported from Pakôkku, the third victim

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being a man who tried to arrest the murderer. The murderer was subsequently caught disguised as a *pôngyi*. The number of dacoities committed in Lower Burma in which firearms were used was very large. In several of these cases guns were lent by hunters to the dacoits. An Anglo-Indian who with his associates engineered more than one case has been sentenced to ten years' transportation for abetment of dacoity. A gallant resistance on the part of a villager and his son to dacoits armed with a revolver and *dahs* is reported from the Tharrawaddy District. The door of a house was smashed in with a sledge hammer and lighted torches thrown into the house. The inmates of the house picked up the torches and threw them out at the back as fast as they were thrown in, and finally the villagers collected and the dacoits fled without any booty. A gang of dacoits which is said to have been responsible for 6 dacoity cases in the Bassein, and 11 in the Henzada District, was broken up during the year. Another organized gang of dacoits which was at work in the Prome District was also broken up. In one dacoity in this District no less than 15 men took part headed by a man who had already served in the Andamans. After the commission of a dacoity in the Minbu District the dacoits were tracked night and day for 40 miles by villagers headed by *thugyis* and police, and eventually the men were arrested. The extent to which criminals travel now in order to commit crime is illustrated by the only dacoity which occurred in the Mandalay District in which two of the accused came from Pyu in the Toungoo District, a distance of over 250 miles. In the Meiktila District the outstanding feature of the year was the breaking up of two gangs of dacoits. In the same District a gang of cattle-thieves headed by a village *thugyi* was discovered who were responsible for the theft of no less than 126 head of cattle. Several instances are recorded in which villagers have done good work in resisting crimes of violence. Special mention may perhaps be made of one that occurred in the Myaungmya District. A gang of five dacoits travelled by boat and landed near the house of a wealthy Karen whose suspicions were aroused, and who called the neighbours together and sank the boat in the absence of the dacoits. He then posted the villagers in positions of advantage, and when the dacoits attempted to attack, one of them was seized with a 5-chambered revolver, and the rest were put to flight. The next day a ten-house gaung arrested two men, from one of whom a double-barrelled gun and 45 cartridges were subsequently recovered. Eventually all five dacoits were sent for trial and convicted. The issue of guns to picked *thugyis* is reported to have had a good effect in the Prome District and to have prevented more than one projected dacoity.

Offences under Special Acts.

36. The number of true cases dealt with under the Excise Act was 5,708 as compared with 5,392 in the previous year. Of these cases 5,659 were brought to trial, and 5,072 ended in conviction, showing a percentage of convictions to cases dealt with of 89. As regards persons 7,048 were prosecuted, of whom 6,894 were tried and 5,449 convicted. The working results as to both cases and persons are practically the same as in the year 1912. In the Tharrawaddy District a total of 92,012 grains of cocaine and 64,014 tolas of ganja was seized in 1913. Large seizures of cocaine also occurred in the Pegu and Bassein Districts, and of ganja in Toungoo and Thatôn. There can be no doubt that drink is one of the chief causes of serious offences against the person in Burma, and an endeavour is now being made to keep a record of the number of such cases in which drink played a leading part.

The number of true cases instituted under the Opium Act rose from 2,238 to 2,402. The percentage of cases convicted to cases dealt with was 95, and 78 per cent. of the persons arrested were convicted. The largest seizure of opium in the Districts reported for the year was that of 9,495 tolas in the Katha District. During the year 143 prosecutions were instituted under section 3 of the Burma Opium Law Amendment Act resulting in convictions in 122 cases. Specially vigorous action under this section is reported from the Irrawaddy Division. The number of true cases dealt with under the Gambling Act declined by 397 to 4,233. Of the cases tried 3,191 ended in conviction. Of the persons dealt with 57 per cent. were convicted. The number of prosecutions has fallen

off in 22 districts, but the decrease does not appear to be due to any decline in the gambling habit. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

In Myaungmya where the cases dealt with fell from 309 to 201, the decrease is attributed in part to the fact that the increase in other forms of crime has left less time to the police to deal with gambling. An increase of 32 prosecutions under the Arms Act is recorded. Of 558 cases which were tried 97 per cent. ended in conviction. Eighty-seven guns, rifles and revolvers were seized, and 31 surrendered.

37. There was an increase of 447 true cases of non-cognizable crime, the total number of cases dealt with being 37,243 as against 36,796 in the previous year. The increase is confined mainly to offences under Special or Local laws. Of the cases dealt with 69 per cent. ended in conviction. The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried rose from 61 to 62. Non-cognizable crime.

38. A large decline occurred in the number of persons proceeded against under the preventive sections of Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code. There were only 1,581 prosecutions as compared with 2,078 in 1912. A decrease is reported from all Divisions, but is most marked in the Irrawaddy Division. In the Bassein District alone there was a reduction of 158 cases. On the whole, care seems to have been exercised in the selection of persons against whom action should be taken, and superior police-officers appear to have personally enquired into a large number of cases. The vigorous action taken under these sections in the Thatôn District in the previous year has been followed by a welcome decrease in crime. In the Henzada District where there were a number of successful prosecutions the District Superintendent is of opinion that the prosecutions did not stop dacoities and robberies, but that they have had considerable effect in stopping house-breaking, cattle thefts, and ordinary thefts. At the close of the year the number of criminals whose names were on the surveillance registers was 12,259, of whom 1,841 were in jail, and 966 untraceable. The percentage of persons not traceable has risen from 7 to 8. The names of 4,073 new criminals were brought on to the registers during the year, and 2,647 were reported to have returned to honest livelihood, and 1,683 to have emigrated or died. The numbers now on the register in some Districts are too large to allow of effective surveillance. A large number of names was expunged in the Tharrawaddy District during the year, but in this and other Districts there is room for further action in this direction. Of absconders at large at the beginning of and advertised during the year, 906 were arrested, and 1,591 had their names struck off on account of death or other causes. The balance of offenders at large at the end of the year was 5,712. A number of men have from time to time been proclaimed as absconders who were charged with very petty offences, and the names of some of these men were weeded out during the year. The returns show that 3,883 old offenders were identified by the police, and only one old offender escaped recognition before conviction to be subsequently identified by the jail authorities. The number of slips received for search during the year by the Finger Print Bureau was 13,476, and exceeded the number received in 1912 by 2,400. Three thousand six hundred and seventy-nine slips were traced as belonging to previously convicted persons. The rejection of 20 per cent. of the total number of slips sent in for record suggests that greater care is required in the preparation of these slips in the Districts. Expert evidence was given in 94 cases but was refused in 47 cases owing to lack of men. In a number of cases written expert opinion was given. As usual the efforts of village headmen have contributed largely to the detection of crime, though in some Districts there would appear to be room for improvement. The number of persons who escaped from custody during the year was 51 as compared with 48 in 1912. Thirty-seven of these persons and one prisoner, who escaped in 1910, were recaptured during the year. Preventive sections, surveillance, and identification.

39. The punitive police forces in the Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts which were imposed in 1912 for a period of five years are proving successful. In Tharrawaddy the wealthy residents are regaining their lost confidence in the Police, Punitive Police.

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and in Prome there has been a reduction of violent crime and cattle theft. An additional Police-force of 22 Sub-Inspectors was entertained in the Henzada District with effect from the 1st March 1913 and since their appointment the number of dacoities has decreased considerably. A force of punitive police was also sanctioned for one year from the 1st May in the Wundwin and Thazi Townships of the Meiktila District. The additional forces of Military Police employed in the Sagaing and Lower Chindwin Districts and the punitive police in the Yamèthin District were disbanded during the year.

Railway Police.

40. No change was made during the year in the sanctioned strength of the Railway Police which remained at 61 officers and 350 men. At the close of the year the force was short of its sanctioned strength by 2 head constables and 11 constables. Fourteen men were dismissed departmentally during the year, 1 officer and 5 men were dismissed or removed as a result of being judicially convicted, and the total number of punishments inflicted was 149. The high incidence of punishment is attributed to the fact that very strict discipline is needed in this force, and that, as in the District force, the best men do not now come forward to enlist. There were 54 recruits under training at the depôt of whom only 20 passed out. The number of casualties was greater by 9 than in the previous year, a result principally due to an increase in the number of men who were dismissed or died.

The number of true cases investigated by the Railway Police during the year was 1,002 as compared with 1,084 in the previous year. Of these cases 66 per cent. resulted in convictions, two less than the percentage for 1912. The Railway Police had to deal with 12 cases of violent crime, of which 6 resulted in convictions. Seizures within railway limits of cocaine and ganja amounted to 25,404 grains and 4,840 tolas respectively. Out of 83 true cases investigated by the Police under the Opium Act, 77 were successfully prosecuted, and 19 true cases under the Arms Act all ended in convictions. Ten absconders were arrested, and there were 102 names of absconders on the registers at the close of the year. There appears to have been a lack of co-operation between the Railway and the District Police during the year.

Military Police.

41. The sanctioned strength of the Military Police remained unaltered throughout the year. The actual strength on the 1st January 1914 was 15,986 officers and men, or 328 below the sanctioned strength as compared with a shortage of 639 in the previous year. The total cost of the force was Rs. 57·73 lakhs. The drafting of men to Myitkyina and the North-Eastern Frontier proved a serious drain on the resources of the force, and great difficulty was experienced during the year in supplying Lower Burma with patrols. It was found necessary to shorten the period for training of recruits and to stop leave, but even so all the 451 men required for these patrols could not be supplied. The force has maintained its reputation for good conduct and its relations with the people of the country were very satisfactory. The number of desertions rose from 54 in the previous year to 70, but there were 244 fewer resignations with or without pensions. Several members of the force were awarded titles or other honours during the year. The number of men invalided has fallen from 495 to 383, but there were many more admissions to hospital, the percentage of admissions to the total average strength being over 80. The Minbu post suffered from a virulent type of malarial fever, and the health of the force was not so good on the whole as in the previous year. The number of recruits enlisted during the year was 1,419 as compared with 1,361 in the previous year. Difficulty was again experienced in obtaining Sikh recruits of suitable physique and Karens were not easily obtainable. Otherwise recruits came forward readily. Kachins were prominent amongst the men of indigenous races who enlisted during the year. The cost of transport was almost exactly the same as in 1912, Rs. 1·09 lakh. The number of casualties amongst transport animals was 179, 50 of which were due to surra. The attempt to keep Chinese mules in the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts under a contract with Chinese

contractors has had to be abandoned. Eighty-nine remounts were purchased during the year and there were 97 casualties. Musketry was satisfactory on the whole, but more rifle ranges are required in Lower Burma. Funds to the extent of Rs. 50,000 were allotted for the reconstruction of the family lines, Rangoon, necessitated by the destruction of the old lines by fire. Of the grant of Rs. 1·22 lakh sanctioned under the head Petty Construction and Repairs, nearly one-third had to be spent on repairs to temporary buildings.

The Myitkyina Battalion was extensively engaged in frontier work. The Hkāmti Lōng and 'Nmaikha columns successfully engaged and routed a band of foreign intruders. The occupation of Hpimaw and the reinforcement of Htawgaw were brought to a successful conclusion and the Government of India telegraphed their congratulations to the Commandant and all concerned.

Rangoon Town Police.

42. The principal event in the history of the Rangoon Town Police during 1913 was the creation of an additional division in Rangoon Town, the Superintendent of the River Division being relieved of all land duties and the remainder of the town being formed into three divisions—Western, Eastern, and Central. A further change was effected shortly before the close of the year by the transfer of the Hackney Carriage Department from the Municipality. These changes involved an increase in the strength of the force by one Deputy Superintendent, one Inspector, two Deputy Inspectors, one Sub-Inspector and eight men. The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police and the Port Trust Police at the end of the year stood at 79 officers and 1,191 men, and the actual strength was short of this by only one officer and eight men. The total cost of the force rose from Rs. 5·36 lakhs to Rs. 6·21 lakhs, an increase chiefly due to the increase of force sanctioned during the previous year. The conduct of the force was on the whole very good. Six men were convicted of criminal offences as compared with nine men in the previous year. There were 8 dismissals and 25 removals against 11 dismissals and 12 removals, but the removals included 9 newly joined recruits who were removed because the reports received from India on their verification rolls were unsatisfactory. The number of minor punishments inflicted showed a substantial decrease as compared with the previous year. Three officers and 90 men resigned during the year, but 37 of the resignations were from the newly joined recruits. Eight officers and 369 men were given money rewards during the year; 13 officers and 37 men were awarded good service certificates, and 4 officers and 5 men were commended by Magistrates. Three hundred and eighty-three men were trained during the year, of whom 278 were recruits. The congestion of recruits in the depôt, consequent on the large increase of men sanctioned in the previous year, necessitated the training of old men being stopped for a period of eight months. The number of men enlisted during the year was 292 including 5 European Sergeants. Burman recruits were plentiful, but difficulty was experienced in obtaining Sikhs and Punjabi Mahomedans of suitable physique. There was a large amount of sickness in the force which is attributed by the Commissioner of Police to the arduous nature of the work, especially of the beat patrols. The new station buildings at Bahan were occupied during the year, but no other original buildings were erected. The accommodation at police-stations is reported to be very bad both as to condition and sufficiency. The total number of true cases of cognizable crime decreased by 223 to 11,930 in 1913. There was an actual increase in petty cases, and the number of cases which can be looked on as real crime fell from 1,614 to 1,350. The decrease was substantial and was attributable mainly to decreases in offences relating to currency and bank notes and thefts. Of true cases which the police investigated offences relating to currency notes and bank notes declined by 84, thefts by 106, and lurking house trespass or house-breaking by 24, whilst cases of grievous hurt increased by 23 and of criminal breach of trust by 21. With one minor exception the town was free from riots and affrays during the year, and taken as a whole the work of the police in the maintenance of order and the prevention of crime was very satisfactory. Detection however was somewhat less successful than in the previous year. Convictions were obtained in 721 cases out of 1,213 investigated, a percentage of 59 as compared with 62 in

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1912, and the percentage of persons arrested who were convicted has fallen from 84 to 80. The most serious case that occurred during the year was perhaps that of the murder of a police constable whilst endeavouring to arrest four persons who had committed a robbery. Although the number of thefts has considerably declined, the total value of all property stolen under all classes of crime amounted to Rs. 1·51 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·28 lakh and recoveries fell from 40 to 24 per cent. Forty-six cases were tried by the Court of Sessions during the year, and the percentage of convictions in this court rose from 52 to 65. The number of true cases of non-cognizable crime prosecuted fell from 9,793 to 7,881, the decrease being chiefly in cases under the Municipal and Hackney Carriage Acts. Prosecutions under the Excise Act numbered 730 of which 92 per cent. ended in conviction, as compared with 987 and 88 per cent. in 1912. Of the prosecutions instituted in 1913, 99 were conducted by the police. Ninety-five per cent. of the 530 prosecutions instituted under the Opium Act were successful. Twenty-three of these cases were conducted by the police, and convictions were obtained in each case. Eleven cases were instituted under the Gambling Act, of which 10 ended in convictions. All the 13 prosecutions instituted under the Arms Act were successful. The number of persons under police surveillance at the close of the year was 373. A noticeable feature of the year in this connection is the large number of registered criminals and members of criminal tribes who have come to Burma.

Village Administration.

43. The decrease in the total number of headmen in Burma, which has been a noticeable feature in the village administration returns for the past three years was well marked during the year of report, the number falling by 99. There are now 17,654 headmen in the Province. The number of *myothugyis* and *taikthugyis* fell from 565 to 518. A decline in the number of other headmen by 52 indicates that officers are learning to appreciate the evils of a too minute subdivision of charges. The numbers of headmen exercising special criminal and civil powers rose respectively from 1,144 and 1,402 to 1,333 and 1,660. At the same time fines inflicted by headmen have risen from Rs. 1·54 lakh to Rs. 1·78 lakh. The Yamèthin District easily heads the list with fines aggregating Rs. 15,383, but the orders of headmen in this District were interfered with in 131 cases out of 435 examined, and their powers seem to have been exercised with more zeal than discretion. Elsewhere, however, the quality of the judicial work of headmen is reported to be satisfactory, and it was found necessary to interfere in only 2·4 per cent. of the cases examined on revision throughout the Province. The total number of cases examined on revision by District officers decreased by 825 to 27,369.

The work done by village headmen in the collection of revenue was well done, and calls for no special comment. No great improvement is reported in the interest taken by headmen in the administration of the excise law, though there has been some increase in their activities in this direction in the Irrawaddy Division. The relations existing between headmen and the police continue to be excellent, and valuable assistance has been rendered by the former to the latter. Recognition of this fact is evidenced by the increased number of headmen rewarded throughout the Province. Except in the Delta Districts the slow improvement of village sanitation continued during the year. There was a decrease of 31 in the number of headmen dismissed, and the number fined fell from 643 to 637. Suspensions, however, rose by 22, and the net decrease of 15 in the number of headmen punished is about proportionate to the reduction in the total number of headmen. It is evident from the reports that the appointment of headman is becoming increasingly popular. In some cases commission is still inadequate, but it must be borne in mind that the appointment is not a whole-time appointment, and that it carries with it a considerable status. The number of fines imposed on village-tracts decreased from 221 to 219, and the aggregate amount of fines from Rs. 1·16 lakh to Rs. ·88 lakh. But the figures for 1912 were unduly high on account of the rising in the Henzada District. Otuside this District there has been a general increase in the amount of fines imposed. The increase was noticeable in all Divisions except the Mandalay and Tenasserim

Divisions where they were practically stationary, and in Sagaing where there was a fall. These fines were mainly imposed for failure to make any resistance to dacoits or even to follow them up. There have, however, been numerous instances, particularly from the Sagaing, Irrawaddy and Pegu Divisions, of most determined resistance to dacoits. The villagers of three villages in Pyapôn who pursued and arrested a gang of Chinamen armed with firearms were substantially rewarded by three years' exemption from capitation-tax. The number of fines under the Track Law and the amount of fines rose from 33 and Rs. 6,234 to 41 and Rs. 9,187 respectively. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

44. The total number of human beings killed by wild animals and snakes during the year was 1,143 against 1,326 in the previous year showing a decline of 183. One thousand and eighty-four of the total deaths were caused by snake-bite as compared with 1,231 in 1912. But the decrease was proportionately greater in the number of persons killed by wild animals, where the figures fell from 95 to 59. The decline has been generally distributed throughout the Province. Elephants were the only animals which proved more destructive to human life than in 1912. The number of persons killed by tigers fell from 44 to 31. Mortality from snake-bite improved in every Division except Irrawaddy, where the death-rate from this cause rose by 29 per cent. Considerable use has been made by the Burmans of the Lauder Brunton lancet, but authentic testimony is rarely forthcoming as to the venomous nature of the snake of whose bite a cure is claimed. The total mortality among cattle rose from 14,479 to 14,543. Wild animals accounted for 7,927 deaths and snakes for 6,616, the corresponding figures in 1912 being 8,416 and 6,063. Whilst there has been a considerable increase in the number of cattle killed by snakes, the deaths caused by wild animals have fallen by 489. No very convincing explanation of these figures can be offered. The Irrawaddy Division which shows the only increase as to human beings also contributes the largest increase in the death-rate from snake-bite amongst cattle. Wild animals and snakes.

The total number of wild animals destroyed shows a slight decrease from 5,409 to 5,311. An increase of 336 in the Chin Hills is attributed to the fact that wild animals were becoming an increasing menace to life and property, and their destruction was therefore particularly encouraged, whilst a decrease of 309 in the Upper Chindwin District is due in great part to the reduction in the District of the maximum of gun licenses. Only 16,222 venomous snakes were reported as destroyed during the year as compared with 45,788 in the preceding year. In the Tharrawaddy District the figures fell from 37,126 to 5,069, but the number of snakes for which rewards are paid is no exact criterion of the numbers actually killed as it is probable that in many cases the reward is not sufficiently large to induce people to come forward and claim it. The rewards given for the destruction of wild animals and snakes amounted to Rs. 71,116 and Rs. 1,373 as compared with Rs. 70,680 and Rs. 5,782 in 1912.

One thousand three hundred and thirty fresh gun licenses for the protection of crops and the destruction of wild animals were issued during the year; the total number now in force is 7,390 as against 6,984 in 1912. The difference between the latter figure and that given in last year's Report is due to the fact that licenses granted in the Kachin Hill Tracts of three Districts have been included for the first time in the statement for this year.

Criminal Justice.

45. The administration of Criminal Justice is in Lower Burma under the control of the Chief Court, and in Upper Burma of the Judicial Commissioner. The Chief Court consists of five Judges, and one temporary Additional Judge was appointed for six months from the 1st November 1913. The Judicial Service in Lower Burma consisted of 78 European Judges and Magistrates, 260 native Magistrates and 32 Benches of Honorary Magistrates, and in Upper Burma of 76 European Judges and Magistrates, 132 native Magistrates and nine Benches of General.

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Honorary Magistrates. No important legal enactments or rules affecting the administration of criminal justice came into force during 1913. On the creation of a separate Subdivisional Court for Nyaunglebin the Subdivisional Judge was appointed Additional Magistrate, and a 1st Additional Magistrate who was also Subdivisional Judge was appointed at Myanaung. An Additional Magistrate was posted to Kungyangon to assist the Township Magistrate, and a Bench of Honorary Magistrates was created at Insein. There was no change made during the year in the constitution of Sessions Courts, but temporary Additional Sessions Judges were appointed for short periods for the Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Delta and Tenasserim Divisions.

In Upper Burma a temporary Additional Judge of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner was appointed and a Bench of Honorary Magistrates consisting of four members was constituted at the headquarters of the Kyaukse District.

Cases.

46. The total number of offences reported was 82,886 in Lower and 25,773 in Upper Burma as against 82,487 and 25,953 in 1912. There was thus a decline in the figures for Upper Burma, and only a slight rise in the Lower Province. The number of cases classified as true in Lower Burma fell from 69,675 to 69,199 and in Upper Burma from 22,353 to 21,388. But in Lower Burma the decline in true cases is entirely attributable to cases under Special and Local Laws. Those under the Indian Penal Code rose from 26,540 to 26,690. The number of cases of theft shows a satisfactory drop from 7,380 to 6,481. True cases affecting human life are reported to have risen from 362 to 470, and of dacoity cases from 121 to 181, and those of robbery to have fallen from 294 to 289. There is reason to believe that the figures under these three heads were not correctly reported last year. But even so there appears to have been a real increase in the number of cases affecting human life of 20 or 30, and in dacoities of 30 or 40. As regards offences under Special and Local Laws the largest decreases are 1,042 under the Municipal, 634 under the Railways and 341 under the Gambling Acts. In Upper Burma the number of true cases of hurt, grievous hurt and murder fell by 44, 41 and 7, respectively, and cattle thefts and ordinary thefts also declined. The most noticeable increases were 146 and 102 respectively under the Forest and Municipal Acts. In Lower Burma the percentage of true to instituted cases was 83·49 and in Upper Burma 82·99 as compared with 84·47 and 86·13 in 1912. The number of complaints summarily dismissed rose from 2,992 to 3,509 in Lower Burma, and fell from 1,098 to 1,075 in Upper Burma.

Disposal of cases.

47. The number of cases brought to trial fell from 80,320 involving 137,542 persons in Lower Burma to 78,294 involving 134,747 persons, and in Upper Burma from 24,986 cases involving 49,255 persons to 24,933 involving 48,559 persons. In Lower Burma, District Magistrates disposed of 685 cases as compared with 567 in 1912, and 25,294 cases were tried by Honorary Magistrates as against 26,196. The percentage of cases tried summarily fell from 43·9 to 42·0. Of the cases tried before Magistrates 62·77 per cent. resulted in convictions as against 60·91 per cent. The percentage would be considerably less if only offences under the Indian Penal Code were considered. Proceedings with a view to demanding security for the keeping of the peace were opened against 143 persons as compared with 142 in 1912 and 90 per cent. were called upon to give security as against 91·5 per cent. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to their giving security for their good behaviour fell from 1,721 to 1,368 and 74·8 per cent. were called on to give security as compared with 78·9 per cent. The number of cases committed to Sessions fell from 663 to 562, the largest decreases being in the Prome and Hanthawaddy Divisions. The percentage of convictions was 57·7, practically the same as in 1912. Prome again registered the highest percentage, 74·8, followed by Hanthawaddy with 67·7. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 44 involving 64 persons, as compared with 50 involving 69 persons in 1912. The percentage of convictions was 60·4 as against 53·8. The number of death sentences referred to the Chief Court for confirmation was 124 as compared with 138 in 1912 and 88 in 1911. The death sentence was confirmed in 70 cases, the corresponding figure in 1912 being 82. The average

duration of cases in Magistrates' Courts was 14 days, one day more than in 1912. In Courts of Sessions the duration rose from 64 to 65. Bassein was again the highest with 79 days, though this is a considerable improvement on last year's figure. The number of witnesses examined increased from 296,290 to 296,821.

In Upper Burma District Magistrates disposed of 606 cases as against 515 in 1912. In 336 of these cases which were tried under their special powers there was a percentage of conviction of 67·98. The percentage of convictions before all Magistrates was 59·88, practically the same as last year ; if cases compounded were included the percentage would be 67·53. Honorary Magistrates disposed of 3,248 cases as compared with 3,545 cases in 1912. One hundred and sixty-three cases were committed to Sessions as compared with 132 in 1912, and 162 cases were disposed of. The Sessions Judge, Meiktila, disposed of the largest number of cases—60. The percentage of convictions in Sessions Courts was 66·41 or ·83 below that in 1912. The highest percentage was 75·28 in the Meiktila Division. The cases of 33 persons were referred to the Judicial Commissioner for the confirmation of death sentences, and the sentences were confirmed in the cases of 22 persons. The corresponding figures in 1912 were 43 and 23. Action under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure was taken against 645 persons as compared with 685. Fifty-nine persons were ordered to give security to keep the peace, and 446 to be of good behaviour, as against 41 and 422. In each case the percentage of success has risen. The number of applications for maintenance fell from 1,634 to 1,489. The average duration of cases remained unaltered. The number of witnesses examined was 96,574 as compared with 98,006 in 1912.

Punishments.

48. In Lower Burma the number of persons punished in the Magistrates' Courts rose from 75,998 to 76,098. There was a decrease in the number of persons whipped, and of those sentenced to imprisonment with solitary confinement ; the numbers of all other kinds of punishment rose. A rise in the number of short terms of imprisonment is again due to the action taken in Rangoon against professional beggars. The number of whippings fell from 1,649 to 1,285, the decline being almost entirely due to the decrease in the number of theft cases. The Judges of the Chief Court comment on the large number of illegal sentences of whipping which were passed. One hundred and three juveniles were whipped as compared with 120 in 1912. The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 6,50,947 as against Rs. 6,17,973 in the previous year, but the percentage of amount realized to amount imposed fell from 87·8 to 84·7. The amount awarded in compensation under section 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure rose from Rs. 30,701 to Rs. 34,434. The number of first offenders dealt with under section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, fell from 933 to 820. The decrease was probably largely due to the decline in the number of theft cases. Twenty boys were sent to the Reformatory School as compared with 25 in 1912.

In Upper Burma the number of persons punished was 26,920 as compared with 26,925 in 1912. Of the total number punished 82·48 per cent. were sentenced to fine without imprisonment, and 12·65 per cent. to rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinement as compared with percentages of 81·61 and 13·16 respectively in 1912. Imprisonment with solitary confinement was awarded in 143 cases, and whipping without any other punishment in 478 cases as against 181 and 539. The percentage of actual to possible whippings rose from 24·32 to 27·98. Fines imposed and realized rose from Rs. 2,74,877 and Rs. 2,52,227 to Rs. 2,81,913 and Rs. 2,59,912 respectively. The amount awarded as compensation was Rs. 24,648 as compared with Rs. 20,978. Four hundred and ten persons were dealt with as first offenders under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and 10 were sent to a Reformatory School. The corresponding numbers in 1912 were 416 and 11.

Appeals.

49. In Lower Burma 8,537 appeals were preferred against convictions in 1913 as against 8,288 in 1912. In the Chief Court the number fell from 1,390 to 1,308 and in Sessions and District Magistrates' Courts the numbers rose from 5,328 and 1,570 to 5,566 and 1,663. In the Sessions Court of the Delta there was an

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increase of 254. The percentage of sentences confirmed to the total disposed of was 69·4 as against 69·8. The average duration of appeals fell from 20 to 19 days. In Upper Burma appeals rose from 2,520 to 2,695. Appeals to the Judicial Commissioner rose from 220 to 240, and there was also an increase in the numbers preferred both to Sessions and to District Magistrates' Courts. The percentage of confirmations fell from 66·16 to 60·18, an increase in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner being more than compensated for by a decrease in the other Courts. The average duration remained unaltered at 19 days.

Revisions.

50. In Lower Burma District Magistrates called for 5,837 cases on revision as against 5,307 in 1912, and Sessions Judges 1,671 as compared with 1,515. The number called for by the Chief Court fell from 768 to 756. In Upper Burma 4,056 cases were before District Magistrates on revision as compared with 3,225 in 1912. The number of cases called for under the Criminal Justice Regulation fell from 2,185 to 2,149 and the number otherwise called for rose from 839 to 1,801. The percentages of confirmation in the two classes of cases were respectively 94·01 and 93·45. In 1,205 cases before Sessions Courts, 97 per cent. of the decisions of the Lower Courts were confirmed. The Judicial Commissioner had 1,191 cases before him on revision as compared with 924 in 1912, and confirmed the decisions of the Lower Courts in 85·71 per cent. of these cases.

Prisons.

Accommodation.

51. During the year there was accommodation for 15,397 males in the prisons of the Province as compared with 15,322 males in the previous year. There was no change in the accommodation provided for females. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 16,746 or 995 in excess of the total accommodation available. Taking into account the convict population alone (15,761) the capacity (14,299) fell short of requirements by 1,462. As in recent years, there was overcrowding in the convict population in nearly all the jails of the Province, especially in Lower Burma, and this overcrowding has been even more serious than in the previous year. At some jails the under-trial accommodation was also overtaxed, but not to the same extent as in the previous year. As regards the scheme for the provision of additional accommodation, a reference to which was made in last year's Report, the extensions in progress will allow space for 1,392 additional prisoners. The number of prisoners employed on unremunerative labour rose from 45 to 63.

Prisoners.

52. At the commencement of the year, the jail population was 16,941; 38,287 were admitted and 38,633 were discharged from all causes, leaving the number in confinement at the close of the year at 16,595. The daily average strength of all classes rose from 16,337 to 16,746 the highest figure on record in the annals of the Jail Department in Burma. Convicts show an increase of 471 in their daily average, while under-trial and civil prisoners show a decline of 58 and 3 respectively. The number of juveniles under the age of 16 advanced from 150 to 167, of whom 158 were boys and 9 girls. The number of juvenile offenders sent to jail to be whipped was 318 against 336 in 1912. The percentage of reconvicted prisoners rose from 24·18 to 25·01, the highest figure appearing at Henzada (39·21) and the lowest at Meiktila (5·56). Youthful offenders under 15 years of age to the number of 26 were admitted to jail as compared with 27 in 1912 and 43 in 1911. Twenty-four of the 26 were transferred to the Reformatory School at Insein, and only one of these was previously convicted. There were decreases of 1,067 and 128, respectively, in sentences of rigorous imprisonment and of rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement, and an increase of 147 and 5, respectively, in respect to sentences of simple imprisonment and of rigorous imprisonment with whipping. The identification of habitual prisoners was effected, before conviction in 4,491 cases, and in jails in 9 cases.

Discipline.

53. The total number of recorded offences committed by convicts, including offences dealt with by Criminal Courts, was 28,484 or 5,785 less than in 1912,

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There has been a general decline in the number of offences during the year. Penal diet was awarded in 1,810 cases against 3,031 in the previous year. The nature of assaults committed calls for no special remarks, except for one case at Myaungmya which ended fatally. The number of whippings fell from 103 to 86, of which 48 were inflicted on habitual and 38 on casual prisoners. The number of escapes was 7, the same as in the previous year. All the escapes occurred outside the jail and 3 of the 7 were recaptured during the year. Though the habitual convicts formed only 41·01 per cent. of the daily average convict population, they received 56·48 per cent. of the total punishments. The conduct of the convict officers has been generally satisfactory and they continue to co-operate with the paid staff and give much assistance in maintaining order and discipline.

Financial.

54. The total expenditure was Rs. 11,68,128 against Rs. 11,54,322 in 1912 showing an increase of Rs. 13,806. The gross cost per head of prisoner was Rs. 69-12-1 against Rs. 70-10-6 in the previous year. The net cost per prisoner was Rs. 53-7-0 a reduction of Re. 1-9-0 on the cost of the previous year. The value of vegetables raised in the jail gardens increased from Rs. 99,235 to Rs. 1,04,220 and the farm produce decreased from Rs. 43,658 to Rs. 34,262. The total profit amounted to Rs. 2,73,214 and is the highest recorded since 1898. The saving to Government arising from the employment of prison labour on jail works and repairs was Rs. 18,516 as compared with Rs. 19,050 in 1912. The value of the convict labour supplied to the Jail Branch Press is estimated to have been worth Rs. 56,886, or Rs. 5,847 less than in the previous year. No credit for this amount is taken in the Jail accounts.

Vital.

55. There has been a satisfactory improvement in the health of prisoners during the year, though the death-rate is still unduly high. The ratio of deaths *per mille* of population during the year was 16·24 against 20·69 in 1912. All the jails were free from cholera, except Ma-ubin where there were 4 admissions for this disease with 3 deaths. Mogôk (33·59), Kyaukpyu (32·37), Bhamo (29·58), Henzada (28·41), Myanaung (26·34) and Katha (26·05) returned the highest percentage of opium consumers admitted to jail. Of the 272 deaths, 42 were among those addicted to the drug habit, which in most cases was that of opium consuming.

Miscellaneous.

56. For the year of report the convict population at Meiktila consisted entirely of casual prisoners. The number admitted was 138 and the daily average for the year was 99 against 145 and 85 respectively in 1912. The same principles as have been in force since the jail was opened as a juvenile jail in 1909 were carried out in the matter of employment of prisoners. The instructions remained as before. The conduct of the juveniles on the whole is reported to have been good and their management easy. Grants of tools to 9 boys on release, to enable them to carry on their trades, were made and in addition new suits of clothing were supplied to 5 others. In one case only a money award of Rs. 5 was made, it having been found that the gratuity earned by the boys ranged from Rs. 4 to Rs. 18 and that further monetary aid was not considered necessary. The Vernacular School was successfully carried on, the standard being raised from the Vth to the VIth and, as in the previous year, the school was favourably reported on by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Meiktila, who recorded his opinion that the results obtained at the examination were creditable to the masters. Eighty-five per cent. of the boys sent up were successful at the examinations. As usual a *pôngyi* (Buddhist monk) attended the jail weekly and preached to the inmates. In recognition of his services, a silk robe and a certificate were presented to the *pôngyi* by the Local Government. The manual training scheme for youthful offenders continued to be carried on in Central Jails and so far the results have been satisfactory. On release from jail certain youthful offenders were each presented with a box of tools to enable them to earn an honest livelihood by the trades taught them in jail. A definite opinion as to the success or otherwise of the presentation of tools cannot be formed until the results of a

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number of cases are known. The progress of the juvenile school at Rangoon and the jail school at Mandalay is reported to have been satisfactory. At Thayetmyo a class for well behaved young prisoners has been formed. They receive instruction in reading and writing for two hours daily and are reported to have made good progress. The principle of the separation of habitual and non-habitual prisoners was, as usual, observed in all the jails. Of the three projects for altering and extending one of the jails, mentioned in last year's Report, the third project, which was noted as pending for want of funds, is now in progress. During the year 5,651 convicts were released under the remission rules. Of convicts who were eligible only one failed to gain remission as compared with 10 in the previous year. The number of convicts who were awarded special remission for continuous good conduct during the year was 2,565 against 2,153 in 1912.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

57. The administration of Civil Justice during the year 1913 was controlled in Lower Burma by the Chief Court composed of five Judges and in Upper Burma by the Judicial Commissioner. In Lower Burma the Judicial Service was composed of 37 European and 149 native Judges, and in Upper Burma of 57 European and 129 native Judges. In Lower Burma a temporary Additional Judge of the Chief Court was appointed with effect from the 1st November 1913. It was again necessary to appoint temporary Additional Divisional Judges to cope with the work in the Hanthawaddy and Bassein Divisions. The Subdivisional Courts of Henzada-Myanaung and Pegu-Nyaunglebin were broken up, and a separate Judge appointed for each Subdivision. An addition of one was made to the number of the Subordinate Judicial Service, bringing the total strength of the cadre to 59. In Upper Burma a temporary Additional Judge of the Court of the Judicial Commissioner was appointed.

The total receipts of the Courts were Rs. 24,95,788 or more than a lakh less than in 1912. The total charges decreased from Rs. 50,83,330 to Rs. 50,57,878.

Suits.

58. The most striking feature of the year in the administration of Civil Justice is the large decline in the number of original suits, both in Lower and in Upper Burma. The total numbers of suits instituted fell in Lower Burma from 49,942 to 43,350 and in Upper Burma from 22,823 to 20,357, and are the lowest on record since 1903. The decrease is most marked in cases relating to money and movable property, and it is suggested in Lower Burma that it is due to agricultural prosperity rendering it unnecessary for money-lenders to have recourse to the courts for the recovery of their debts. The total number of suits for disposal in Lower Burma was 50,072 and in Upper Burma 22,529. Of suits instituted in Lower Burma there were only 38,241 for money or movable property as compared with 44,935 in 1912, whereas the number of suits for immovable property has gone up from 1,506 to 1,838, a figure higher than any previously recorded. There was a further decline in the number of mortgage suits from 1,866 to 1,563. In Upper Burma the number of suits relating to money or movable property decreased from 20,425 to 17,883, and, as in Lower Burma, there was an increase in the number of suits concerning immovable property. The number of mortgage suits rose from 700 to 741, the largest increase being that of 68 in Sagaing. The decline in the total value of suits from Rs. 1,75,66,589 to Rs. 1,50,64,487 in Lower Burma, and from Rs. 33,53,472 to Rs. 30,78,316 in Upper Burma corresponds with the decrease in the number of institutions. About one-third of the decline in Lower Burma occurred in the Chief Court. The Magwe District, from which a considerable increase was reported last year, has the largest share of the decrease in Upper Burma. The fall of pending cases in Lower Burma from 6,047 to 5,847 is not so great as might have been expected. In the Chief Court the number of pending cases rose by 121. The lengthy nature of certain cases and congestion of work on the Appellate and Revisional side contributed to this result. In Upper Burma 1,986 cases were left pending at the

close of the year as compared with 2,095 in 1912. The percentage of suits disposed of without contest to the total number of suits was 71·9 in Lower Burma and 72 in Upper Burma. In contested suits in Lower Burma plaintiffs were wholly or partially successful in 67 per cent. of the suits and in Upper Burma in 64 per cent. In Lower Burma the average duration of contested cases was 84 and of uncontested 50 as against 85 and 41 in 1912. There have been decreases in the duration of contested cases in the Chief Court, the Rangoon Small Cause Court, and District and Subdivisional Courts. But in other Small Cause Courts and in Township Courts the duration has risen. The explanations given for this increase are not satisfactory. The duration in Upper Burma has risen in the case of contested cases from 68 to 74 and of uncontested cases from 38 to 40. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

The number of miscellaneous cases fell in Lower Burma from 7,443 to 5,811, and in Upper Burma from 2,178 to 1,813. There were only 38,872 applications for execution in Lower Burma as compared with 63,650 in 1912, and the sum of Rs. 20,60,189 realized in execution was over Rs. 11 lakhs less than the figure for 1912. A drop of over Rs. 10 lakhs in the amount realized in the Chief Court was mainly responsible for this decrease. In Upper Burma the number of applications for execution fell from 12,270 to 11,625. The amount realized in execution was Rs. 5,60,741, almost the same as in the preceding year. The percentage of cases wholly infructuous to the total disposed of was 56·59 in Lower Burma and 48·69 in Upper Burma as compared with percentages of 58·01 and 47·68 in 1912. The number of judgment-debtors imprisoned in Lower Burma was 522 as compared with 562 in 1912, but the number of applications on which the judgment-debtor was arrested but released without imprisonment has risen from 1,722 to 1,914. In Upper Burma of 1,223 arrested only 97 were imprisoned. In both Lower and Upper Burma the number of applications for the benefits of the Provincial Insolvency Act have fallen: in the former from 422 to 357 and in the latter from 249 to 232. In Lower Burma 110 applications and in Upper Burma more than half of the total number filed were rejected, figures which strongly suggest that the provisions of section 15 of the Act are not understood.

59. The number of appeals preferred in District Courts in Lower Burma was 1,931 as compared with 2,016 in 1912. The number disposed of fell from 2,018 to 1,962. The percentage of confirmation, 65·2, compares favourably with the figure for 1912 of 63·7. The average duration has risen from 62 days to 65. The number of appeals preferred to Divisional Courts rose from 396 to 521. Most of these appeals come from Subdivisional Courts where there was an increase in the number of suits instituted. The average duration has risen from 126 to 147 days. The percentage of confirmation rose from 62·1 to 65·6. Appeals.

In Upper Burma District Courts had 2,137 appeals before them as compared with 2,049 in 1912. The average duration rose from 80 to 87 days. Divisional Courts had 26 cases before them as compared with 14 in 1912, and the average duration rose from 56 to 108 days.

60. The number of suits instituted before the Chief Court fell from 462 to 412, and the aggregate value from Rs. 65,74,062 to Rs. 52,32,019. In each case the figures for 1913 are almost the same as for 1911. The number of suits disposed of was 291 as against 497 in 1912, and there were 388 cases pending at the end of the year as compared with 267 in 1912. The fall in disposals is partly due to the fact that only one Judge was engaged on the Original Side, and partly to the fact that an unusually large number of protracted suits came up for hearing. There was also a big increase in the number of insolvency cases, a large number of which were contested. Of the suits disposed of 26·5 per cent. were contested as against 34·8 per cent. in 1912. Plaintiffs were successful in 59·7 per cent. of contested cases decided as compared with 71·1 per cent. in 1912. The average duration of both contested and uncontested cases fell, of the former from 332 to 325, and of the latter from 215 to 197. The number of sales of immovable property in execution was 43 as against 55 in 1912, and the total amount realized in execution of decrees Rs. 5,09,159 as compared with Rs. 15,17,036 in 1912. The number of insolvency cases disposed of rose from 149 to 225. Of other The Chief Court.

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miscellaneous cases on the Original Side there were 27 applications for Probates, 104 applications for Letters of Administration, 14 cases under the Guardian and Wards Act, and 20 cases under other Acts, in addition to 71 cases under the Code of Civil Procedure.

The number of regular appeals preferred rose from 369 to 455, and 372 were disposed of as compared with 367 in 1912. The average duration of first appeals fell from 518 to 486 days, that of second appeals rose from 325 to 372. Decrees were modified in 7·8 per cent., reversed in 24·5 per cent. and confirmed in 67·5 per cent. of the total disposed of. The percentage of confirmation is lower than it has been since 1909. There were 353 cases before the Court on revision as compared with 275 in 1912. Two hundred and twenty-two were disposed of and 131 were pending at the close of the year. Six appeals were pending before the Privy Council at the end of 1913. No cases were decided during the year.

The Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

61. The appeals before the Judicial Commissioner in 1913 numbered 886 or 241 more than in 1912. Four hundred cases were disposed of as compared with 238 in the preceding year, and 486 cases were left pending at the close of the year. The percentage of confirmation was 65·75 as compared with 67·65 in 1912. With the increase in volume of work the average duration of appeals rose from 285 to 384 days. On the revisional side the Court had 418 cases before it as compared with 321 in 1912: 218 of these cases were disposed of and 200 remained pending at the end of the year. The percentage of confirmation was 77·98, and the average duration 319 days as compared with 75·57 and 234 days in 1912.

General.

62. Eighteen persons were admitted as advocates of the Chief Court during the year, in addition to one first grade pleader, five second grade and ten third grade pleaders. Fourteen first grade, 106 second grade, and 444 third grade pleaders renewed their certificates. Minor amendments were made in the rules regarding pleadership examinations and the rules for the admission of pleaders. In Upper Burma the number of cases dealt with by the Judicial Commissioner relating to advocates fell from 181 to 126.

Registration.

General.

63. No important alterations in the working of the Registration Department took effect in 1913, but with effect from the 1st January 1914 the Upper Burma Registration Regulation has been replaced by the Indian Registration Act in Upper Burma. There were 161 registration offices at the end of 1913. Three new offices were opened during the year. The total number of whole-time sub-registrars was raised by 2 during the year to 35. A very considerable improvement in registration in Lower Burma during the last three years is reported as a result of the appointment of these officers.

Deeds registered.

64. The number of compulsory registrations during the year was 64,656 and the aggregate value of property affected Rs. 773·34 lakhs, showing increases of 5,128 and Rs. 24·29 lakhs respectively over the figures for 1912. The value of immovable property registered in Lower Burma was higher than in any previous year except 1906, and the number of documents registered the highest on record. Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards declined in value by Rs. 31 lakhs, but increased in number by 1,178. The decrease in the average value of such instruments has now been fairly steady since 1907; it is suggested that this is due to the sales of land of small values being more frequently recorded on account of an extended knowledge of the requirements of the law. In Rangoon Town there was a decline, both in the number of registrations and in the value of property affected in 1913. Instruments of mortgage have risen in number from 25,792 to 29,526 and in value from Rs. 247·96 lakhs to Rs. 317·41 lakhs. The number of registrations was the highest on record, and the total value has not been exceeded since 1906. The increase in average value corresponds with an increase in the value of agricultural land consequent upon the high price of

paddy. The total of registrations in Book IV decreased in Lower Burma by 32 in number, and increased by Rs. 2,74,084 in value, and decreased in Upper Burma by 122 in number, and Rs. 95,876 in value. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

65. The total income received increased by Rs. 17,970 or 8·23 per cent. The total expenditure increased by Rs. 4,042, about half of which is again due to increased percentage payments made to registering officers in Lower Burma. The total expenditure on registration amounts to half the total income. Income and expenditure.

Joint Stock Companies.

66. Company promoting was still less active in 1912-13 than in 1913-14. Only seven companies limited by shares were registered during the year as compared with 16 in the previous year, and the total nominal capital represented fell from Rs. 42·05 lakhs to Rs. 22·05 lakhs. Five companies with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 38·90 lakhs were wound up or otherwise disposed of. One hundred and twenty-seven companies were working at the close of the year with an aggregate nominal capital of Rs. 1,011·67 lakhs as compared with 125 companies and Rs. 1,024·72 lakhs at the beginning of the year. Of the new companies all but about Rs. 2½ lakhs of the total nominal capital was accounted for by two mining and quarrying companies. These were Radcliff & Co., Ltd., and the Nansan Dredging Company, Limited, with capitals of Rs. 13·50 lakhs and Rs. 6·00 lakhs respectively. Another company with a capital of one lakh of rupees was formed for work on an embankment in the Tharrawaddy District. Of the companies which wound up their business during the year, the Chinese Steamship Company, Limited, with Rs. 23·10 lakhs provides the largest nominal capital. Thirty-six companies increased their capital, the aggregate increases being Rs. 3·80 lakhs in nominal capital, and Rs. 11·70 lakhs and Rs. 14·86 lakhs in issued nominal and paid-up capital respectively. Nine companies reduced their capital with total decreases under the last two heads of Rs. 1·60 lakh and Rs. ·87 lakh respectively. Two companies limited by guarantee were registered during the year, raising the total number of such companies in the Province to 10.

Local Boards Administration.

67. There are no local boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in Chapter V of this Report.

Municipal Administration.

68. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by Rs. 47,000 to Rs. 42·09 lakhs, and the ordinary expenditure by Rs. 5·26 lakhs to Rs. 44·45 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 10-8-5 and the incidence of income Rs. 14-12-4. The corresponding figures in the year 1912-13 were Rs. 10-1-4 and Rs. 14-3-0. No new taxes were imposed during the year, but considerable progress was made with the systematic revision of assessments which commenced five years ago. The annual increase in receipts from rates and taxes has, however, steadily declined for the last three years, and the expansion of revenue from this source appears to be exhausting itself. The financial position of the Municipality is dealt with in Chapter V of this Report. Rangoon Municipality.

A prominent feature in the Municipal Administration during the year was the attention devoted to the construction and improvement of roads. A complete scheme has been formulated under which it is intended to bring all the main roads of the town up to a first class standard in a period of ten to twelve years, and a good start has already been made with the scheme. The town again suffered to a serious extent from fires, the total damage being estimated at Rs. 10⅕ lakhs. Towards this total the complete destruction of six godowns of the Port Trust

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contributed Rs. 5 lakhs. The attention of the Municipal Committee was directed to the reorganization of the Fire Brigade, and a second Hatfield motor engine was put into commission during the year. The efforts of the Fire Brigade are handicapped by the lack of adequate pressure in the water mains in some parts of the town, but it is hoped that the new water-works scheme, which is now in hand, will remedy this defect. Negotiations were in progress during the year with the company which carries out the lighting arrangements of the town for the improvement of street lighting. The problem of exercising a more complete control over the milk-supply of Rangoon has again formed the subject of considerable correspondence between the Municipal Committee and the Local Government. Of the total amount of milk consumed within the town 80 per cent. is imported from milk-farms situated outside Municipal limits, and the chief question at issue has been concerned with the adequacy of the powers of the Municipality under the existing Municipal Act to deal with this supply. No final decision on the subject had been arrived at by the close of the year. No general change was made during the year in the conservancy arrangements in force, but the sewerage system was extended. A new market was completed and opened at Dalla, and a site for a new market in East Rangoon has been acquired. The Town Lands Reclamation Fund did not prosper during the year, and the question of improving the administration and finances of the fund is now under consideration. There was a slight rise in the birth-rate of Rangoon for the calendar year 1913 on the estimated population from 17·9 to 18·3. The death-rate fell by over five per mille to 29·46 which is the lowest on record for Rangoon, but is still deplorably high. Infantile mortality declined from 331·28 to 269·06 per mille, but the Health Officer of the Municipality considers this rather as a corollary to the lowering of the general death-rate than as due to the recent introduction of any special fact favourably affecting infant life. The number of plague cases reported rose from 866 to 941, but the ravages of cholera and small-pox were comparatively light. Cholera accounted for 50 deaths and small-pox for 107, the corresponding figures in the year 1912 being 150 and 188. The total number of vaccinations, primary and re-vaccinations, fell from 40,300 to 29,871. The decline is attributed in part to the absence of a severe small-pox epidemic and in part to the number of persons already protected by vaccination in previous years.

Minor Municipalities.

69. The Zalun Municipality was abolished during the year, and the number of minor Municipalities was thus reduced from 45 to 44. No alterations were made in the boundaries of Municipalities. The average incidence of taxation fell from Rs. 2-6-6 to Rs. 2-6-3. The incidence was highest at Moulmein where it was Rs. 4-8-1, and lowest at Taungdwingyi where it was Re. 0-5-10. Assessments were revised at Insein, Pegu, Paungdè, Kyaiklat, and Bhamo. The fresh imposts levied during the year were vehicle and scavenging taxes at Sandoway, a tax and toll on vehicles at Insein, a tax on motor bicycles at Toungoo, water-taxes at Thayetmyo and Minbu, and a scavenging tax at Yamèthin. The financial position of the Municipalities is discussed in Chapter V of this Report.

Public health was on the whole satisfactory. Akyab was the only town to suffer severely from small-pox, though other areas report inconsiderable epidemics. Ngathainggyaung experienced the worst visitation from cholera, and Moulmein and Akyab also suffered from this disease. Plague was again prevalent in many towns. Mandalay, which enjoyed almost complete immunity in the previous year, was the worst sufferer, and returns over 1,300 deaths for the year 1913-14. Moulmein, Prome, Pyinmana, and Ma-ubin are the other towns which suffered most. At Bhamo the epidemic of 1912-13 died down in May 1913, and there have only been two sporadic cases since.

The cause of sanitation again obtained much assistance from the special sanitary grants. From the special non-recurring grant of Rs. 7 lakhs for urban sanitary improvements Pegu received another Rs. 75,000 towards the construction of a new bazaar, and Mandalay received a further sum of Rs. 1,17,400 in connection with the drainage and water-supply scheme. From the non-recurring grant of Rs. 4 lakhs, Toungoo received Rs. 1,00,000 in addition to the sum of

Rs. 50,000 given last year towards the cost of a new bazaar, and Paungdè Rs. 50,000 for a like purpose. The two recurring grants amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 6 lakhs were entirely distributed to the various Municipalities and towns in the Province. The chief disbursements were Rs. 91,793 towards the Yamèthin water-supply, Rs. 88,794 to Mônywa for the same object, Rs. 62,930 for drainage and town improvements at Prome, and a further instalment of Rs. 50,000 towards the Akyab drainage scheme. From the non-recurring grant of Rs. 10 lakhs, a sum of Rs. 1,88,382 was distributed, the largest grant Rs. 64,000 being made to Mandalay for equipment of tube-wells. With the help of these grants both Mônywa and Yamèthin have made considerable progress with their water-supply schemes, and good drinking water has been obtained from the tube-wells which have been sunk at Mandalay. The water-supplies of other Municipal towns have also received attention. At Syriam a scheme is under preparation for the provision of five artesian wells for the town, and a tank for the bazaar. A sanitary grant enabled Insein to sink six tube-wells of which five proved successful. At Pegu a water-works scheme estimated to cost about Rs. 4 lakhs was sanctioned, and work on the reservoir was started. Practically no progress was made towards the completion of the water-works at Bassein, and the sinking of experimental tube-wells at Wakèma and Pyapôn proved unsuccessful. But the water-supply scheme at Kyaiklat is nearing completion, and that at Thayetmyo was completed during the year. Amongst other sanitary measures a commencement was made at Akyab on the improvement of the town drainage, and the scheme for the partial drainage of the town of Paungdè is nearing completion. Important drainage schemes are in progress at Mandalay, while both reclamation and drainage works were carried out on a smaller scale in a number of other Municipalities. The Moulmein drainage scheme which will involve a very large expenditure is being held in abeyance pending further enquiry into the scheme by the Divisional Sanitary Board. A scheme for drainage and reclamation work is under consideration in Bassein. The conservancy scheme at Kyaiklat is said to be fast approaching completion. Improvements made to hospitals during the year include the construction of a new female ward at Bassein, and of a female hospital at Henzada. The construction of a new hospital at Yamèthin has commenced, and the new hospital at Pyapôn was expected to be ready for occupation in August 1914. The new bazaar at Pegu is nearing completion, and has largely increased the revenue of the Municipality. Friction between the Committee and the stall-holders in the bazaar at Bassein led to an increase in the cost of the establishment. The expenditure of a number of other Municipalities has been increased by the construction of new or the improvement of old bazaars. There was a slight increase in expenditure on public safety, due chiefly to the improvements effected in street lighting at Ma-ubin. Expenditure on education increased, and Municipal schools at Akyab, Bassein, Henzada, Thayetmyo and Shwegyin were taken over by Government during the year. Cases of defalcation were discovered at Pyapôn and Moulmein, but the state of the accounts of Municipalities as disclosed at the audit was on the whole satisfactory.

The constitution of Kalaw as a town increased the number of notified areas from 18 to 19. The incidence of taxation in notified areas rose from Re. 1-15-10 to Rs. 2-1-4. Public health on the whole seems to have been good, although some towns were visited by plague. Further grants were made to the Maymyo Town Committee in aid of drainage and water-supply schemes, and a subsidy was also granted towards the cost of a pipe-line from the septic tank.

Military.

Strength of the garrison.

70. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of Burma on the 31st March 1913 was 9,346 officers and men, of whom 3,432 were Europeans, as against 9,742 officers and men, of whom 3,573 were Europeans at the end of the preceding official year. In the native troops there were 113 British Officers and 5,803 men of other ranks as compared with 108 and 6,169 in the preceding year. British Officers on the staff are not included in these figures.

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71. The amount expended on Military works during the year was Rs. 4·64 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·29 lakhs in the year 1912-13. The quarters for the General Officer Commanding the Rangoon Brigade, which were in progress during the previous year, were completed at a total cost of Rs. 41,189. The sum of Rs. 20,623 was expended on a gymnasium for the British Infantry at Maymyo and the Depôt barracks in the British Infantry Lines, Rangoon, were re-roofed and the walls raised at a cost of Rs. 11,429. A new dhoby ghât was practically completed in Fort Dufferin, and a hot air pump was provided for the Shwebo Cantonment water-supply. Other works included the erection in Fort Dufferin of a market for the Native Infantry, Mandalay, and the draining of the marsh in the neighbourhood of the British Infantry Lines at Maymyo.

Military (Volunteering).

72. The six Volunteer Corps in Burma remained as before, the Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, and the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps with headquarters in Rangoon, the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles with headquarters in Mandalay, and the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Moulmein Volunteer Rifles with headquarters in Moulmein. The total strength on the 31st March 1914 was 3,324 adults, 748 cadets and 238 reservists, as compared with 3,526, 802 and 174 respectively at the end of the previous year. The number of efficients, excluding reservists was 3,757 as against 4,147 and the capitation grant earned was Rs. 1·45 lakh as against Rs. 1·57 lakh. These figures do not include the 38 members of the South Andaman Volunteer Rifles which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles.

The Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers were reorganised by the abolition of the four Naval Divisions of the Corps, and sanction was given to the formation of an Infantry Machine Gun Company. Sanction was also given to the formation of a reserve company of Electrical Volunteers in this corps, and a Subdivision of Cadets was added to the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery Corps. Amongst rifle corps the most important change was the transfer of the Bassein detachment from the Rangoon to the Burma Railways Volunteer Rifle Corps. The rules of the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles were revised during the year.

Marine.

Light-houses and light-ships.

73. Progress on the improvements to the Alguada Reef Light-house was somewhat slow as the materials and labour had to be mostly employed on the repairs to the chasm wall, the gap in which was closed by the use of steel sheet piling driven into the rock by a steam hammer. It is hoped that the protection from wave action afforded by this wall will prove to be sufficient. The total expenditure on these improvements during the year amounted to Rs. 42,500. Clockwork machines and fittings were obtained for Savage Island, Beacon Island, Table Island and Green Island and remain to be erected in the light-houses at these places. During the year the question of providing another light-ship about 20 miles east-south-east of China Bakir Light-house was considered and it was decided to build a vessel for the purpose. The necessary plans and specification at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,73,840 were approved by the Director of the Royal Indian Marine, but, for financial reasons, the construction of the vessel has had to be postponed. The unattended Wigham's patent light was again exhibited at the west end of Zallataung Island from the 1st October 1913 to the 31st May 1914 and worked satisfactorily. The light at Victoria Point continued to give satisfaction. The R.I.M.S. " Mayo " was the station vessel during the year of report. She visited the light-houses and light-ships and was also employed in carrying out certain other miscellaneous duties. The landing of stores and materials at, and the supply of fresh water to, the Alguada Reef, in connection with the improvements being carried out there, proved a great strain on the resources of the vessel. Although a few of them suffered from fever, the health

of the light-keepers generally was good throughout the year. There were two cases of beri-beri, one at Beacon Island and the other on the light-ship stationed at the Baragua Flats. The light-ships "Danidaw" and "Kalagauk", which are stationed at the Baragua Flats and Krishna Shoal, respectively, were brought into Rangoon for their annual overhaul. The relief light-ship "Martaban" took the place of each in turn. The light-ship "Kemmendine" continued to be stationed at the Spit. The crews of the light-vessels are at present temporarily engaged to serve for three months, and considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining suitable seafaring men. The total expenditure on light-houses and light-ships rose from Rs. 1,78,850 to Rs. 1,82,236. The cost of repairs to light-houses by the Public Works Department fell from Rs. 42,387 to Rs. 25,936, while charges on account of provisions and blue light composition increased from Rs. 24,783 and Rs. 4,342 to Rs. 34,972 and Rs. 12,983 respectively. The receipts from Burma Coast-light dues continued to rise and amounted to Rs. 4,50,035 as compared with Rs. 4,38,807 in the previous year and Rs. 4,16,210 in the year 1911-12.

Port Administration, Rangoon.

74. The receipts of the Rangoon Port Trust on revenue account for the year 1913-14 were Rs. 51·85 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 43·93 lakhs in the previous year. Expenditure rose from Rs. 35·96 lakhs to Rs. 37·03 lakhs, but was exceeded by the receipts by the remarkably high figure of Rs. 14·82 lakhs. Of this surplus Rs. 2·75 lakhs were transferred to the various reserve funds, leaving a net surplus of Rs. 12·07 lakhs on the year's working. The increase in revenue is due chiefly to trade expansion.

The Customs returns for the year show that 80·17 per cent. of the foreign and coasting trade of the Province passed through Rangoon. The total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the port amounted to 2,937,221 tons and is the highest on record. The imports into Rangoon amounted to 1,231,377 tons and 59·7 per cent. of these imports were handled by the Port Trust. Of the exports which amounted to 3,303,347 tons, 12·9 per cent. were shipped from the Commissioners' premises. The volume of both exports and imports dealt with by the Port Trust far exceeded the corresponding figures for the previous year, and the traffic receipts rose from Rs. 22·76 lakhs to Rs. 25·65 lakhs. The increase in the receipts was however only in part due to the expansion of trade, the revision of the schedules of rates being a contributory cause. Expenditure on the Traffic Department rose from Rs. 8·02 lakhs to Rs. 9·32 lakhs, the chief increase being under the head of labour for wharves. Receipts of the Port Department were Rs. 8·14 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6·15 lakhs in 1912-13, and the expenditure Rs. 4·75 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·13 lakhs. Port dues for which the revised rates were in force for the greater part of the year contributed nearly a lakh of rupees towards the increase in receipts. The revised river due rate of six annas per ton took effect from July 1912. It was thus in force for part only of the year 1912-13, but for the whole of the year of report. This fact combined with the expansion of trade to raise the river due from Rs. 13·09 lakhs in 1912-13 to Rs. 17·09 lakhs in 1913-14. Rupees 15·58 lakhs or about 30 per cent. of the total receipts were expended from the revenue account during the year on debt charges. The Commissioners raised the sum of Rs. 34·48 lakhs during the year on debentures the nominal value of which was Rs. 35 lakhs, and the capital debt of the port on the 31st March 1914 after deducting the sum of Rs. 30·74 lakhs at the credit of the sinking fund account, was Rs. 2,67·88 lakhs. The total expenditure charged to capital account up to the 31st March 1914 amounted to Rs. 3,30·76 lakhs. The expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 33·19 lakhs. Of this sum the river training works account for Rs. 21·34 lakhs, and the purchase of a new dredger to maintain a deep water channel across the Hastings Shoal for Rs. 8·43 lakhs. It was to meet the charges that would be imposed by the purchase of this vessel that the port dues were raised. The only new work of any magnitude undertaken by the Engineering Department was the construction of godowns to replace six godowns which were destroyed by fire. The amount charged to capital account on this work during the year was about Rs. two lakhs.

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The question of providing a dry dock for Rangoon was considered by the Port Commissioners during the year, but has had to be kept in abeyance for reasons of finance. Other matters of interest in the administration of the port are the measures taken for dredging the Hastings Shoal which are dealt with more fully in paragraph 80, and the removal of the wreck of the S.S. "Cholon" in connection with the river training works. But the outstanding feature of the year was the completion of the river training works themselves nearly two years before the estimated date for completion and within the sanction of cost. They were inaugurated on the 17th February 1914 by the Lieutenant-Governor and there is every sign that the results of the scheme will be completely successful. Before the formal inauguration the wall had already stood firm against the action of the tides for many months, silting behind the wall had progressed rapidly, and the main channel had been diverted into its new course.

Pilot Service, Rangoon.

75. The Pilot Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 81,918, and receipts amounted to Rs. 3,63,415 and expenditure to Rs. 3,80,119, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 65,214. The gross pilotage receipts rose from Rs. 3,27,622 to Rs. 3,53,670 and the disbursements to pilots also increased from Rs. 2,32,746 to Rs. 2,55,421. A sum of Rs. 21,000 was added to the Pilots' Vessels' Depreciation Fund, which stood at Rs. 1,69,595 on the 31st March 1914. Four vessels were detained at the Pilot Brig for short periods owing to lack of a pilot, an improvement by one on the previous year's figures. With these exceptions the Pilot Service was well maintained. The conduct of certain members of the Pilot Service brought them under the notice of the Port Commissioners of Rangoon. While the latter were considering the matter the pilots themselves submitted a memorial to the Local Government requesting that the control of the service might be vested in a special board, that their remuneration might be increased and that a Committee might be appointed to enquire into the state of the service in regard to these two points. A Committee was appointed and sat several times. It found that the memorialists had no legitimate cause of complaint in regard to their remuneration and that on the other hand the state of discipline among the pilots was lax owing to the absence of proper control, and that measures should at once be taken to introduce a proper sense of subordination. The Local Government is now taking steps to legislate with a view to remove Rangoon from the scope of the British Burma Pilots Act of 1883, and to insert in the Rangoon Port Act the necessary provisions for giving the Port Commissioners complete departmental control over the pilots, subject only to the sanction of the Local Government in case of removal from the service.

Minor ports.

76. Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust, there are six ports in Burma for which separate Port Funds are maintained, namely, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Moulmein, Tavoy and Mergui. The total receipts and expenditure were Rs. 5,62,336 and Rs. 6,01,446 as compared with Rs. 4,35,953 and Rs. 4,15,323, respectively, in the previous year. The year opened with a balance of Rs. 2,76,239, but the excess of expenditure over receipts reduced the balance to Rs. 2,37,129 at the close of the year. The expenditure of four of these funds exceeded the receipts, but the closing cash balances were satisfactory. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year.

Outside Rangoon, there are Pilot Funds at Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. They receive the fees for pilotage and their disbursements include the earnings of the pilots, charges for the maintenance of pilot vessels and some other expenses. The year of report opened with a balance of Rs. 24,155 and closed with a balance of Rs. 29,702. Receipts and expenditure rose again from Rs. 1,22,34 and Rs. 1,27,831 to Rs. 1,40,287 and Rs. 1,34,740, respectively. At the close of the year all the funds were solvent. Port Officers appointed by Government and assisted by Advisory Boards continued to manage the ports of Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. The administration of the ports of Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui, is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioner. These three ports have no Pilot Funds.

Commercial Marine: shipping.

77. Five hundred and six vessels of all kinds entered ports in Burma from foreign countries in 1913-14 as against 526 in the preceding year. The aggregate tonnage fell from 1,343,854 to 1,286,280 tons. The number of steam-vessels decreased from 505 to 463 and their tonnage from 1,340,861 to 1,280,331. All the vessels in the foreign trade were steamers and the decline is due to the diversion of the rice trade to India and the consequent decrease in the number of tramp steamers chartered for the purpose of taking rice to Europe. The number of sailing ships and their tonnage increased from 21 to 43 and from 2,993 tons to 5,949 tons. Three hundred and twenty-six steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 1,000,256 entered Rangoon from foreign ports, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 353 and 1,026,700 respectively; no sailing vessel visited Rangoon during the year of report as against 1 in 1912-13.

The number of steamers and sailing ships engaged in the coasting trade which entered ports in the Province fell from 3,818 to 3,703, of which 2,331 were steamers and 1,372 were sailing vessels, as compared with 2,239 and 1,579 in the previous year. The total tonnage rose from 2,821,493 to 3,045,707; the tonnage of steam-vessels was 2,994,023 against 2,766,666 and that of sailing ships 51,684 against 54,827. One thousand one hundred and forty-seven or slightly less than one-half of the total number of steamers came to Rangoon, the number of sailing ships that entered that port being 118 against 119 in the preceding year. Rangoon accounted for 1,947,195 tons out of the total coasting tonnage of 3,045,707, the figures for 1912-13 being 1,833,183 and 2,821,493 tons respectively. The average size of steam-vessels visiting Rangoon increased. The number of such vessels of above 5,000 gross registered tonnage continued to rise from 388 to 420, and 15 steamers of 29 feet draught left the port against 8 in the previous year.

Of the 506 steam-vessels and sailing ships that entered ports in Burma from foreign countries, 319 or 63·04 per cent. were British and 52 British Indian. The percentage of British vessels in the preceding year was 63·69, and the number of British Indian boats 45. In the Rangoon foreign trade 235 vessels entered flying British colours and 91 foreign. Altogether 119 vessels sailed under foreign flags against 141 in 1912-13. The number of Japanese vessels fell from 64 to 48, the decline being due to a lesser demand for Burma rice in that country. Entries into all ports in Burma included 26 German, 22 Austrian and 15 Dutch vessels against 26, 26 and 11 in the previous year. Russian, Swedish and American vessels numbered 6, 1 and 1 as compared with 4, *nil* and 1 respectively in 1912-13.

The increase of 92 in the number of steamers engaged in the coasting trade was the natural consequence of the advance in the exports of rice to India. Sailing vessels however declined by 207, there being a large decrease in the number of small craft plying between the minor ports situated on the Tenasserim coast, as the outcome of the improvements made by the British India Steam Navigation Company in the means of communication to these ports and other small places in their vicinity. Of the 3,197 vessels carrying cargoes 1,894 were British, 157 British Indian, 93 foreign and 1,059 native sailing craft. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 1,841, 161, 75 and 1,106 respectively.

Commercial Marine: wrecks and casualties.

78. During the year of report there were only 15 casualties to shipping within the jurisdiction of the Port Commissioners of Rangoon against 31 in the preceding year and none of these casualties were serious. Three occurred to vessels in charge of licensed pilots, ten to vessels in charge of assistant harbour masters, and two to vessels in charge of serangs. In four cases departmental enquiries were held, two assistant harbour masters being warned and one fined, while one pilot was also warned. Two enquiries were held under the British Burma Pilots Act, 1883, and one under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1883; the two pilots and one assistant harbour master concerned were acquitted of negligence. An enquiry was also held under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1883, in connection with the stranding of the S.S. "Tullochmoor" at the Baragua Flats at the mouth of the Rangoon River on the 17th January 1914. The Court found that the Master was not to blame for the accident which appeared to be due to the buoy of the Baragua light-vessel not being situated in the position assigned to it on the map

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and to the use of an obsolete and small scale map. Shortly after the occurrence the Royal Indian Marine Steamer "Mayo" took soundings in the vicinity and it was found that the Baragua Flats had extended to the southward. The light-vessel and her mark buoy were accordingly shifted two miles due south.

Reports were received of the stranding of two other ships during the year. The British India Steam Navigation Company's "Zaida" grounded in Celerity Passage in the Mergui Archipelago on the 29th April 1913. No apparent damage was sustained, and it was not considered necessary to hold a formal investigation into the matter. A Special Court of Enquiry was appointed under the British Burma Pilots Act, 1883, to investigate the grounding on the 2nd February 1914 of the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company's "Shahzada" near the Lower Mupun Spit in the Moulmein river whilst in charge of a first grade pilot. The Court found that the grounding was due to an error of judgment on the part of the pilot in miscalculating the strength of the tide, steering too open a course and not making sufficient use of the admitted high power of the vessel. The pilot was censured and warned to be more careful in future. The ship suffered no damage, and the contact was slight and of short duration.

Government steamers and launches.

79. The two Royal Indian Marine vessels "Sladen" and "Bhamo" carried by river over seven thousand troops and followers, besides women and children, convicts, transport animals, ammunition, 7,649 tons of stores and Rs. 82 lakhs of specie. Their total earnings rose from Rs. 1,70,710 to Rs. 1,82,009, each vessel showing an increase. Three new steam-launches and one motor-launch were added to the Government flotilla, while one Public Works Department cargo boat was wrecked off the Alguada Reef Light-house on the 3rd March 1914. At the close of the year there were 140 vessels, consisting of 88 steam-launches, 12 house-boats, 11 flats, 5 dredgers, 4 light-ships, 4 motor-launches, 3 barges, 3 steam-barges, 2 buoy vessels, 2 mooring boats, 2 cargo boats, 1 steam cutter, 1 rock-smashing boat, 1 water boat and 1 boat for the conveyance of transport animals. The total earnings of Government vessels fell from Rs. 5,35,645 to Rs. 5,15,740, those employed in Lower Burma showing a decrease of Rs. 33,387, while the Upper Burma vessels earned Rs. 13,482 more than in the previous year. The decline so far as the Lower Burma vessels are concerned was due to the fact that a large number of vessels were used for touring purposes by District officials and to there being no demand during the year for the services of the paddle steamer "Custodian" for the conveyance of troops and specie. Seven steam-launches in Lower Burma and the same number in Upper Burma earned more than the cost of their upkeep. The steam-barge "Seetha" in Lower Burma showed a profit of Rs. 10,561 and the steam-launches "Corsair" and "Myittha" in Upper Burma profits of Rs. 11,860 and Rs. 14,937 respectively. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Government flotilla, including 4 per cent. on their estimated present value, increased from Rs. 8,21,496 to Rs. 8,32,676. The principal increase was in the cost of fuel consumed in Lower Burma. The vessels throughout the Province were kept in a state of efficiency. The fuelling arrangements which are carried out by the Forest Department continued to give satisfaction. The outturn of work during the year of report at the Marine Workshop, Mandalay, amounted to Rs. 1,19,367 against Rs. 1,07,628 in 1912-13. The increase is explained by the fact that a large number of logs were converted for the Marine Store Godown for issue of timber to other departments. The total expenditure at the Government Workshop, Rangoon, rose from Rs. 1,06,594 to Rs. 1,40,859. A larger number of District launches and light-ships came in for repairs than in the previous year and were instrumental in raising the principal items of expenditure "Repairs to Government vessels" from Rs. 38,898 to Rs. 62,789. The expenditure on account of permanent establishment and temporary labour and overtime came to Rs. 55,671 as compared with Rs. 35,746 in the previous year.

Marine works and surveys.

80. During the year new surveys of the Rangoon river from the harbour limits to Elephant Point, and of the harbour were carried out and new charts have been issued. The hopper dredger "Cormorant" ordered from the United Kingdom to

be utilised in maintaining a navigable channel across the Hastings shoal did not arrive till the 6th March 1914 and on the way out lost her suction nozzle owing to bad weather. A new nozzle had to be obtained so that the dredger was unable to do any dredging work until after the close of the year. Meanwhile the need for dredging was somewhat urgent and the dredger "Pelican" carried out dredging operations in the Monkey Point channel, making two cuts through the bar. A good channel was opened for navigation but silting up again commenced as soon as the dredger was removed. The King's Bank channel is now reported to be useless for deep sea ships. The Danidaw reach, which commenced to silt up during the last dry weather, is being taken in hand by the "Cormorant." The Elephant Point lights and station have been moved to a new site 150 feet further south and inland owing to the erosion of the river bank. The Wigham lighted buoys have given some trouble and the only lighted buoy that has given satisfaction is the acetylene gas buoy now doing duty at the Fairway station.

Outside Rangoon mention has already been made of the improvements to the Alguada Reef. Other works included the construction of a screw pile wharf at Kattiya in the Ma-ubin District for Rs. 4,850 while the wharf at Dedaye was extended and improved at a cost of Rs. 4,969. Wharves were being constructed at Kyônmange and the extension of the Naukle wharf at Mergui was in progress during the year. With a view to building jetties at Kyetsabyin, which is about a mile below Tavoy, the foreshore of the port land at this place was protected with stone pitching. The R.I.M.S. "Investigator" commenced the survey on the scale of 2 inches to one sea mile of Celerity Passage and Bôkpyin Anchorage and approaches off the coast of the Mergui District.

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CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Occupied and cultivated areas.

81. The area taken up in the year for agricultural, residential and industrial purposes exceeded 256,000 acres, a slightly larger figure than in the previous year. The occupied area of the Province now totals 17,938,452 acres. The total area left fallow measured 3,790,936 acres, or 21·1 per cent. of the occupied area as compared with 21·6 per cent. in 1912-13. The area on which crops matured increased by 295,000 to 13,591,148 acres. The area on which crops were destroyed in 1912-13 was the lowest figure on record for ten years; in 1913-14 the figure fell even lower, and was only 555,658 acres. The increases in matured area are mainly attributed to a general absence of floods, the continuance of high prices of paddy, and the return of confidence in the investment of capital in the development of land, together with the normal expansion of population. The total area brought under cultivation, inclusive of areas which failed, amounted to 14,673,626 acres, an increase of 378,127 acres. Twice-cropped areas, which lie mostly within the dry-zone, totalled 526,110 acres. Almost all the most important rice-producing Districts in Lower Burma have contributed substantially to the increase of occupied area. The one notable exception is Hanthawaddy where nearly all available land has already been occupied. Floods in Amherst and Thatôn induced people to fallow greater areas, but an apparent similar increase in Hanthawaddy is due to improved classification. In most other Districts in Lower Burma there was a decrease in the area fallowed In Upper Burma the area occupied is extensive and fallowing is readily resorted to. Thus more than five-sixths of the total fallowed area of the Province are in Upper Burma. The Shwebo District shows a decline of nearly 100,000 acres of land left fallow, and a corresponding increase in areas on which crops matured. Other Districts

which have prospered during the year are Sagaing and Myingyan. In the Lower Chindwin District continuous and heavy early and middle rains caused an increase in fallowing. Katha showed steady expansion, but suffered from a severe hailstorm in November. Thayetmyo is the only dry-zone District which shows no expansion in the area occupied, but Magwe and Meiktila also show decreases in area cultivated of 8,124 and 27,985 acres respectively. In Magwe this is attributed to a failure in the streams from the Pegu Yomas, and in Meiktila to deficient rainfall. There were 10,331,065 acres under rice cultivation during the year, an increase by 112,252 acres over the figures for the previous year. The area under red millet shows an increase of 39,000 acres. Meiktila and Yamèthin, where the rains were unfavourable for the rice crops, are mainly responsible for the increase. In the white variety of millet there has been a decrease of 14,000 acres. The main millet-growing Districts again complain of the ravages of the parasitic *pwinbyu* weed (*Striga lutea*). The area under early sesamum shows an expansion of about 20,000 acres, but late sesamum increased by 1,000 acres only. Groundnut continues in favour and shows an increase of over 47,000 acres. Pakôkku, Myingyan, and Magwe are mainly responsible for the increase, but almost all the dry-zone Districts contribute something.

The area under cotton increased by 64,000 acres to 299,798 acres. Meiktila, Myingyan, and Thayetmyo contributed the largest percentage of increases. The area under tobacco, 94,728 acres, is larger than in 1912-13; the main increase took place in Upper Burma. The area reported to be under rubber rose from 44,029 acres to 50,946 acres, but the increase in the total area actually planted is probably not so large.

Area irrigated.

82. The estimated area irrigable is just over 1½ million acres. Of this area 1,072,183 acres were irrigated during the year, or 19,463 acres less than in 1912-13. This decrease mainly took place amongst the minor irrigation works maintained by Government and private enterprise, especially in the area supplied by tanks. About 50,000 acres less were irrigated from Government tanks, and 10,000 less from private tanks. There was a decrease of 10,000 acres in the area irrigated from private canals, but an increase of 20,000 acres in the area supplied by Government canals. Well irrigation in the Province is restricted to garden cultivation, and is almost negligible. Other sources of irrigation yielded an increase of 30,000 acres. The failure of tank irrigation, mainly in the Meiktila, Yamèthin, and Myingyan Districts, illustrates how precarious tank irrigation is in a year of deficient rainfall. The irrigated area from private canals in the Magwe District was even less than in the previous year. This is the second season in which the hill streams from the Pegu Yomas have failed to yield sufficient water. The expansion of irrigation continues in the Minbu and Shwebo canal areas.

Of the gross irrigated area 94 per cent. was under rice. Sesamum and other food crops make up the difference. The irrigated area twice-cropped aggregated 37,619 acres.

The Agricultural Department: General.

83. There has been a considerable development in the work of the Agricultural Department during the year. Several new farms have been opened, and, although the superior staff of the Agricultural Department remained unchanged, several additions have been made to the subordinate staff. Two new appointments have been made to fill the posts of Assistant Botanist, Southern Circle, and of Superintendent of the new station at Tatkôn, and a temporary Superintendent for the Hmawbi Farm has been sanctioned for one year pending the completion of the training of one of the new probationary Assistants. Sanction has also been given to the recruitment of five probationary assistants, and to an increase of five in the staff of District agriculturists. As in former years the main work of the department in connection with agricultural education was confined to the training of junior members of the staff. A recurring grant of Rs. 1,500 was made available for agricultural education during the year. The whole of this sum is now being spent on stipends to members of co-operative societies who desire to gain experience of the methods in use in experimental farms. The posting of District

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agriculturists to six Districts has provided a means for the commencement of demonstration work previously non-existent. The Mandalay Farm continues to attract a number of visitors and the other stations of the department are also becoming known. Exhibits were numerous at the Bhamo Agricultural and Live-stock Show, but the show appears as yet to have had no effect either on the breeding of stock in the District or on the improvement of agriculture, and proposals have been made for its discontinuance. The second Provincial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference was held at Mandalay in August, and was largely attended by visitors both official and non-official. Departmental Conferences, which continue to be held every six months, were attended by the Registrars and Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies. The growth of public interest in the department is evidenced by the annually increasing number of requests that are made for information. The buildings at the Hmawbi Agricultural Station were practically completed during the year. The water tank and pipe line in Mandalay have also been completed, but the results are not altogether satisfactory.

Agricultural experiment and research.

84. Experimental work on paddy at the Mandalay Agricultural Station included an economic classification, together with a permanent collection of the varieties of paddy grown in Upper Burma. Manuring and transplanting experiments were also continued, and line breeding of pure varieties of paddy was carried on successfully. A poor season adversely affected the work at Mandalay on crops other than paddy, but peas and beans received attention, and further experiments were made with Madagascar beans. Important work was done on plant breeding and seed selection at the Hmawbi station. The Taunggyi garden was sold during the year, and there are now only two experimental gardens in the Province maintained by the department, one at Falam and one at Myitkyina. Wheat cultivation at Myitkyina was successful, but the results of the experiments in potato-seed production were disappointing. The local officers were unable to give much attention to the latter crop during the year, and better results are hoped for in future. Vegetables and fruits are the chief crops produced at Falam, and the garden did considerably better than usual. The establishment of an experimental station at Yaunghwe in place of the Taunggyi garden is under consideration. Experiments through District agency are inconsiderable, but they have been to a large extent replaced by experiments made by cultivators on their own initiative. The study of cotton has now been taken up seriously by the department. The Tatkôn Farm in the Yamèthin District and that at Padu in the Sagaing District are both devoting attention to the crop, and the establishment of a seed farm in each of the three Districts of Pakôkku, Myingyan and Thayetmyo has also been sanctioned. Experiments made during the year show that careful selection of the seed cotton in mill compounds leads to little or no increase in value, but it is hoped that the plant breeding work upon the experimental farms will produce a greatly improved local variety of cotton. The possibility of using tube-well irrigation to improve the production of cotton crops in some tracts was under the consideration of the department during the year. Success was again obtained at the Myitkyina garden in the cultivation of wheat, and it is hoped that the local cultivators may now be induced to take up this crop. Cultivation of wheat in the Chin Hills was recommenced during the year. Castor cultivation in the Kyauksè District continued to develop and samples of the crop were sent to several Rangoon firms. The commercial prospects were considered of a trade in the seeds of the "Jatropha curcas" which grows freely as a weed over much of the dry zone. Extensive trials with Madagascar beans have been made by co-operative societies throughout the riverine tracts of Upper Burma, and in some other places, and the results on the whole have been encouraging. Experiments with sugarcane are being undertaken on the small experimental stations at Pwinbyu in the Môn canals area.

Exclusive of preliminary analytical experiments with starch, with soil water, and with oils, 160 analyses were completed by the Agricultural Chemist. Measurements and weighments were carried out with 360 pots planted with paddy in August 1913. In field culture work, the examination of paddy varieties could not be continued, but the cultures have been maintained with a view to

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further study in the current year. Observations extending over two years have shown that marked differences in composition and seed weight are produced by growing the same variety of paddy on different soils, and this work has been extended and now involves the cultivation and examination of paddy at six stations. Thirty-two oils and oilseed samples were examined during the year. Considerable progress was made with the preparation of a catalogue of Upper Burma paddies, and botanical work in connection with paddy also included the examination and selection for future work of 56 hybrids. A botanical study was commenced of the *pwinbyu* weed (*Striga lutea*), a parasite, which has done much damage recently to *jowar* in the dry zone, and of the water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes Solms*). A bulletin on the paddy pests of Burma is under preparation in the Entomological section, and several tours were undertaken during the year in connection with the collection of materials for this work. The opening of a small experimental dairy farm at the Mandalay station during the year marks a new development in the activities of the department. Two cultivators' leaflets and two bulletins were issued by the department.

Veterinary Department Staff and Veterinary Schools.

85. There was no change during the year in the number of Superintendents in the Veterinary Department or of Veterinary Inspectors. Veterinary Assistants were reinforced by appointments from the schools, and their strength stood at 137 at the end of the year as compared with 120 at the beginning. The record of the Veterinary School, Insein, shows a distinct improvement. There were only 2 resignations and no removals or dismissals as against 6 resignations and 8 removals in the previous year. Sanction was given to the recruitment of 21 new pupils during the year, and 92 applications were received for the appointments. These figures compare very favourably with the 17 applications which were received in the previous year to fill 15 vacancies. There were 41 students at the close of the year showing an increase of 10. Work in accordance with the proposals for the better equipment of the school was taken in hand during the year. The average daily attendance of animals brought for treatment rose from 19·7 to 21·8, and there was also an increase from 2,119 to 2,603 in the number of specimens sent in from the Districts for examination. At the Taunggyi School there were 7 pupils at the close of the year.

The total cost of the department for the year rose from Rs. 2,56,120 to Rs. 2,57,514. Of this sum Rs. 48,647 was met from Imperial, Rs. 1,46,052 from Provincial, and Rs. 62,815 from Local Funds.

Cattle disease.

86. The Province was comparatively free from cattle disease during the year, the total number of deaths from contagious diseases being 20,411 as against 24,676 in 1912-13. In Lower Burma deaths fell from 17,149 to 14,397. The decline was most marked in rinderpest from which disease only 9,410 cattle died as compared with 14,014 in the previous year. More than half of these deaths occurred in the Amherst and Mergui Districts of the Tenasserim Division. There was a somewhat serious outbreak of anthrax in the Kyaukpyu District, but otherwise this disease appeared only in sporadic form. Rinderpest accounted for 1,588 deaths in the Katha District, but for the whole of Upper Burma the deaths from this cause fell from 6,491 to 3,638. Foot-and-mouth disease accounted for 860 deaths in the Sagaing District. Otherwise there was no serious mortality either from this disease or from anthrax. The Shan States again suffered from outbreaks of rinderpest. Exact statistics are not available, but the outbreaks appeared over a wide area and Kenglün in the Southern Shan States is reported to have lost 827 head of cattle, and Hsipaw in the Northern Shan States over 2,000. One hundred and seven deaths are reported to have occurred from surra in the Myitkyina District, and the disease was more or less prevalent in various other places.

Preventive inoculation against rinderpest was carried out in nine Districts and 5,223 animals were inoculated as compared with 11,907 in 1912-13. The operation was very difficult in the Amherst and Mergui Districts owing to the extreme wildness of the cattle. The percentage of inoculated cattle that died fell from slightly over 1 to ·78, the worst figures coming from the Magwe District with

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15 deaths amongst 602 inoculated animals. The total number of animals treated by the Veterinary Department for contagious diseases was 33,113, and for non-contagious 43,233 as compared with 37,764 and 56,190 respectively in the previous year. Deaths reported from non-contagious diseases amounted to 65,965 in Lower Burma, and 16,513 in Upper Burma. Co-operative cattle insurance is beginning to make headway in the dry-zone Districts of Upper Burma, and a large number of veterinary inspectors and assistants were present at the Provincial and Co-operative Conference held at Mandalay. In the Amherst District the high prevailing prices are reported to have induced owners of diseased cattle to refrain from burying the hides, and thereby to have largely contributed to the spread of disease. But the segregation rules appear generally to be appreciated and followed by headmen and cattle owners in Burma proper, and permanent segregation camps have proved their value in many places.

Stock.

87. Except in the Thatôn, Amherst and Katha Districts agricultural operations were not interfered with by disease. The number of bulls and bullocks was 2,032,563 and of cows 1,532,160. These figures show an increase over the revised figures for 1912-13. Male and female buffaloes show slight decreases, the figures returned being 383,483 and 402,291. The stock of calves increased, whilst that of buffalo calves decreased. Sheep show a slight rise, and goats increased to 187,690, whilst horses and ponies decreased to 89,248. Ploughs and carts numbered 616,563 and 648,828 respectively.

Agricultural loans.

88. The advances made to agriculturists during the year under the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to Rs. 9·24 lakhs, and the total aggregate loaned at the end of the year was Rs. 19·96 lakhs. The amount due for collection was Rs. 11·94 lakhs of which sum Rs. 10·37 lakhs, or 87 per cent., were collected during the year. This percentage exceeds that of the previous year by 4. The amount collected is generally a gauge of the agricultural prosperity of the year, and the increase may be attributed to the succession of two exceptionally good seasons. Suspensions fell from Rs. 1·22 lakh to Rs. ·89 lakh. About Rs. 38,500 of this total was reported from the Yamèthin and Meiktila Districts. In Meiktila alone the suspensions amounted to Rs. 20,555, but this is less than half the corresponding figure for the previous year. Yamèthin inherited considerable suspensions from the previous year, but enjoyed improved collections during the year. In addition to the amount suspended the sum of Rs. 82,578 was overdue at the end of the year as compared with Rs. 1·26 lakh at the end of the year 1912-13. These figures are however for the financial year and the amounts overdue were for the most part recovered before the end of the agricultural year. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 9·56 lakhs. The advances are given to be utilized in the purchase of plough cattle and seed grain in times of stress, and only a few cases are reported where the advances were not used for the purposes granted. The amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act fell from Rs. 16,175 to Rs. 14,040. Thayetmyo, Myingyan, Meiktila and Yamèthin are the only four Districts that took loans of Rs. 1,000 or more during the year. The advances were mainly made for local irrigation projects.

The profit accruing to the Local Government from these loan operations after repayment of principal and interest at 3½ per cent. to the Government of India amounted to Rs. 45,123.

Protection from floods.

89. The construction and maintenance of embankments for the protection of culturable lands from flood forms an important part of the duties of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department. The principal works lie along the course of the Irrawaddy River in Lower Burma, but operations on a smaller scale have also been carried on along the banks of the Sittang River. For the main works on the Irrawaddy embankments both capital and revenue accounts are kept, but the works on the Sittang River and the Ma-ubin embankment in the Ma-ubin District have revenue accounts only.

The capital outlay on embankments for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept amounted at the end of the year to Rs. 39·81 lakhs. Both receipts and working expenses were smaller than in the year 1912-13. Receipts fell from Rs. 14·33 lakhs to Rs. 14·32 lakhs, and expenses from Rs. 3·49 lakhs to Rs. 2·40 lakhs. The profits have thus risen from Rs. 10·84 lakhs to Rs. 11·92 lakhs, which represent a percentage of 29·95 on the capital outlay. The area protected increased by about 9,000 acres to 489,570 acres. The area protected by embankments for which only revenue accounts are kept also rose from 196,147 acres to 198,927 acres, and the net revenue derived from them increased from Rs. 5·32 lakhs to Rs. 5·84 lakhs. The increase in the total area protected by embankments is due to the extension of cultivation in a favourable season.

The construction of an embankment for a reservoir in the Moyingyi basin was commenced during the year. This work is an extension of the Zwebat-Moyingyi embankment in the Pegu District, and is designed partly to feed the Pegu-Sittang Canal during the dry season. The Sittang embankment was raised over part of its length and a retirement was made in one place. A sum of Rs. 2,161 was spent on raising the Ma-ubin Island embankment, the work being still in progress at the end of the year. In the Myaungmya District the work of widening and deepening the Myagyaw-Yegyaw creek was completed at a total cost of Rs. 23,585. The construction of a cross bund between the main embankment and the marginal bund in the Henzada District was commenced. An estimate for Rs. 1·12 lakh has been sanctioned for the extension of the Myanaung embankment, and the sum of Rs. 34,940 was spent on the work during the year. It has been decided to carry out only part of the extension for the present, and this part was nearly completed before the end of the year. A further sum of Rs. 5,111 was spent on raising the Henzada section of the Irrawaddy embankment, and Rs. 17,552 were expended on the construction of a retirement on this section. The retirement in the Ngawun section was completed during the year.

Weather and Crops.

Character of the seasons.

90. The character of the seasons in 1913-14 was not so favourable to crops as in the previous year which was somewhat phenomenal. In Lower Burma and the wet zone generally the rainfall was sufficient, but the distribution left something to be desired, and late rains in November adversely affected the yield in many Districts. Flooding of the Sittang, and the Salween and its branches, caused some damage in the Amherst, Thatôn and Toungoo Districts. The Irrawaddy and the Chindwin on the other hand were unusually low, and the *kaing* crops in the Prome and Tharrawaddy Districts were adversely affected thereby. Riverine and island tracts in Upper Burma suffered from the same cause. Most Districts in the dry zone suffered from a shortage in the early rains, but enjoyed improved conditions later. *Ya* crops were successful on the whole and had to be substituted in many cases for unirrigated paddy. In the wet zone of the Mandalay Division the rains were timely and well distributed, and very little destruction was caused by floods.

Outturns and prices.

91. The Provincial rice outturn was originally estimated at 90 per cent. of normal, and the exportable surplus calculated to be 2,700,000 tons of cargo rice. These estimates were based on District reports before the crops were threshed. It appeared later however that the heavy rain in November had adversely affected the grain. A revised forecast was then issued and the exportable surplus was estimated at 2,600,000 tons. In Lower Burma the percentage yield fell from 99 in 1912-13 to 88·7 in 1913-14, and for the whole Province there was a decrease of 8 per cent. This decrease was set off in part by an expansion of 1·25 per cent. in the area under rice, but the millers in Rangoon doubtless suffered from a shortage in supplies. The shortage was accentuated by cultivators and District brokers holding up their crops in expectation of a rise. Although the foreign demand for rice was not so strong as in 1912-13, and the abnormal figures of that year were not reached, good prices were generally realized by cultivators for their paddy. District prices were again often higher than those ruling in Rangoon.

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The final cotton forecast for the year placed the Provincial yield at 49,000 bales of 400 lbs. each, but export statistics tend to show that the yield was underestimated. The Provincial output of groundnut was estimated in the final forecast at 88,000 tons, but local consumption is an unknown quantity and much reliance cannot be placed on this estimate. The outturn of red and white beans was higher than in 1912-13, but the yields of maize, millet, wheat and sesamum declined. Cotton prices were much lower than in 1912-13, a result apparently due in part to a combine amongst the ginners. White beans also fetched lower prices, but otherwise no notable fluctuations of price are recorded. The stocks held by cultivators for their own needs and seeding appear to have been ample.

Co-operation.

Co-operative Rural Societies.

92. The number of agricultural credit societies rose during the year from 976 with 23,703 members to 1,086 with 27,182 members. Rural co-operative societies have not been registered in any Districts in which co-operation had not made a start in the previous year, except for a few cases in the Lower Chindwin District. The Registrar and his staff have chiefly directed their energies to promoting co-operative knowledge in the societies already established, and to instilling the spirit of co-operation as far as possible into every member of the societies, and this is largely the reason why the total increase in the number of societies is not greater. A further step in organization has been made by instituting District Co-operative Conferences; conferences were held during the year in five Districts. The agenda were varied, and subjects which were of practical interest are reported to have been discussed with good sense and keenness. Mention has already been made in paragraph 83 of the second Provincial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference which was held at Mandalay in August. The conference was attended by upwards of 900 Burmans, most of whom were delegates of societies. As a result of the scrutiny carried out by the Registrar and his assistants, 54 societies regarded as thoroughly efficient have been granted cash credits with the Upper Burma Central Co-operative Bank. A society is allowed to borrow on cash credit from the Central Banks, only when it has proved that it understands and can be trusted to fulfil its responsibilities. Every member of every rural society has been given a leaflet entitled the "Ten Main Points" which is capable of being understood by the simplest, and efforts have been made to induce the members to study the leaflet. In the Districts where co-operative credit has already obtained a footing, there is no longer any need for persuasion on the Registrar's part for the extension of the movement. There has been a general improvement in the management of agricultural credit societies as a result of the attention given by the staff to teaching and correction of faults. Many large societies of over 50 members have been divided into sections, each under the care of one member of the committee, who keeps a register of loans for his section. The result appears to have been an improvement in the punctuality of repayments and the minimising of the danger of quarrels. The work of organising co-operative credit among immigrants and the local population in the Môn Canal tract in the Minbu District, came to an end during the year. There are now 81 societies in this tract with 2,830 members. Of the loans held by them from Government they repaid Rs. 79,000, and now hold Rs. 2·33 lakhs. The working capital of agricultural societies rose from Rs. 28·38 lakhs to Rs. 32·60 lakhs. Share capital amounted to Rs. 5·77 lakhs, and loans and deposits from non-members to Rs. 51,105, and from other societies to Rs. 20·08 lakhs. The corresponding figures in the previous year were Rs. 4·48 lakhs, Rs. 16,068, and Rs. 17·44 lakhs, respectively. Loans from Government amounted to Rs. 2·94 lakhs, almost the same as in the previous year, but about 80 per cent. of this sum is held by societies in the Môn Canal tract. Deposits of members rose from Rs. 31,835 to Rs. 51,531. The reserve funds amounted to Rs. 2·82 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·53 lakh in the year 1912-13. Loans made to members during the year amounted to Rs. 18·56 lakhs. The profits amounted to Rs. 1·86 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·31 lakh in the previous year. The

agricultural societies borrow from the central banks at 9 per cent. per annum. Local depositors are encouraged by the offer of 12 per cent., and members who deposit money in their own societies receive 15 per cent. The societies lend to their members at the uniform rate of 15 per cent. The average loans to members during the year were in Upper Burma Rs. 110, in Lower Burma Rs. 147, and for the whole Province Rs. 118½. The expenses of management, including the contributions of societies to the unions, amounted to Rs. 58,737 or 1·7 per cent. of the total working capital.

Unions and Central Banks.

93. The organization of the co-operative system has been advanced by the increase of the number of unions for mutual guarantee and inspection from 67 to 90; and in Upper Burma there are now few rural societies not affiliated to a union. The unions are reported to be becoming more efficient, and in several cases they have shown up bad societies and so enabled the Registrar to take action before the results became serious. There are now nine inspectors employed by unions or combines of unions in Upper Burma.

The Upper Burma Central Bank is the central co-operative bank for the whole Province. Of the other central banks the Pakôkku Bank deals with societies in the Pakôkku District, and the Sagu-Salin Bank with those in the Minbu District. The Pegu Bank still deposits its funds with the Upper Burma Central Bank, and has not yet started business as a District Central Bank. The Pakôkku Bank is reported to have very greatly improved, and to be now an efficient and well-managed concern. Both this bank and the Sagu-Salin Bank have cash credits with the Upper Burma Central Bank, and draw upon it when their own resources are insufficient to supply the requirements of the societies in their Districts. The Upper Burma Bank suffered from the general diminution of confidence resulting from the failures of Indian Joint Stock Banks which occurred in 1913. In the first half of the year, the distrust of new banks caused some depositors to decline to renew their deposits, and the inflow of new deposits slackened. But the bank appears to have recovered the confidence of the public, and deposits came in so freely after January that it was found possible to reduce the rate of interest. The share capital of the bank on the 30th June 1914 was Rs 1·77 lakh as against Rs. 1·63 lakh in June 1913. There were 1,246 fully paid up shares held by individuals, and 2 by societies, and 1,054 half paid up shares held by societies. Fixed deposits have risen from Rs. 14·45 lakhs to Rs. 17·86 lakhs, and Savings Bank deposits from Rs. ·80 lakh to Rs. 1·56 lakh. Including the bank cash credits to the Pakôkku and the Sagu-Salin Central Banks, the loans to societies amounted to Rs. 18·93 lakhs. The bank also held Rs. 2·61 lakhs in Government paper. The net profit on the year's working was Rs. 47,328 one-fourth of which was allocated to the reserve fund.

Other Societies.

94. The number of non-agricultural credit societies rose from 40 with 2,624 members to 49 with 3,414 members. These societies include urban credit societies for traders and artisans, industrial societies for financing workers in particular industries, and societies of salary earners. Urban credit societies failed to make much progress. In Upper Burma there are only two, and their success has been moderate. In Lower Burma there are several societies which are working satisfactorily. Advance seems chiefly to be required in the matters of cash credits, the collection of local deposits, the collection of savings, and the formation of unions. Five urban societies are already organized into a union in the Prome District. The silk-weaving societies of Amarapura continue to prosper. A special officer from the Government Weaving Institute, Serampore, has been appointed temporarily as weaving expert to the Government of Burma, and the students of the old societies' school have formed themselves into a separate co-operative society, and are continuing their instruction under the expert. A very promising society of salary-earners has been started by the Chief Collector of Customs for men drawing Rs. 100 a month or more in the Customs Department at Rangoon. Other societies of this class which had a successful year include the Postal Department Society, and the Kyauksè Clerks' Friendly Society.

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The number of co-operative sale societies has risen from 9 to 63, but this latter figure includes 52 combined agricultural credit and sale societies. The societies dealt with paddy, groundnuts and peas. Five hundred tons of paddy were supplied by seven societies to the Supply and Transport Department. Over fourteen hundred thousand pounds of groundnuts were sold by weight to a Rangoon firm by one society in the Pakôkku District. Difficulties of weighment and measurement at present appear to render direct sale of paddy to Rangoon millers impracticable. The Shwemyo Union of Co-operative Societies was negotiating for the supply of road metal to Municipalities along the railway line at the end of the year. The formation of new cattle insurance societies has been checked and the proposed central re-insurance society has been postponed, pending the result of an application for an interest-free loan from Government. District conferences in four Districts have accepted the decision of the Provincial Conference that the rate of premium should be raised from $3\frac{1}{8}$ to 5 per cent. of the insured value to cover all insurable risks including renderpest, and to reinsure half of their liabilities to the Central Society. They also passed a resolution to compel all rural credit societies to have cattle insurance societies annexed to them. The value of cattle insured at the end of the year in all Districts was Rs. 74,977 and Rs. 401 was paid in indemnities for the death of 18 head of cattle. Other matters of interest include the formation towards the end of the year of a pony-breeding society consisting of about 30 Burmese owners of pony mares residing in the neighbourhood of Amarapura.

Horticulture.

Horticultural Societies.

95. There are two agri-horticultural societies in the Province, the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein.

The Rangoon Society increased its membership during the year from 245 to 292, and the revenue account shows a profit of Rs. 1,037-4-10 as compared with a deficit of Rs. 1,549-3-10 in 1912. The income from all sources rose from Rs. 25,435-8-3 in 1912 to Rs. 29,726-15-9. The new water scheme has been completed at a cost of Rs. 5,633-14-0 and has been fully paid for. The garden now has abundance of water. The annual exhibition of flowers, plants, and fruits, was not so successful as in some previous years, but this may have been due to unfavourable climatic conditions having injuriously affected the quality of the exhibits. There was again no industrial exhibition.

The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society at Moulmein published no report of the year's work and was unable to hold its usual flower-show.

Forests.

Forest reserves, surveys, settlements and working-plans.

96. The total area of forest reserves in the Province rose during the year from 27,023 to 27,332 square miles. New reserves, aggregating 285 square miles in area, were notified during the year, and twenty-six square miles were added by recomputation of areas, while two square miles were disforested. The total area of unclassed forests at the end of the year is estimated at 114,111 square miles, an increase of 7,519 square miles over the area shown in the previous year. The increase is due to recomputation of areas and to the inclusion of culturable land other than fallow land which has been previously omitted. All public forest land, whether covered with tree-growth or not, is shown as unclassed forests; no information is available at present to show what portion of the area is stocked with valuable timber-producing species and what portion is really waste land destitute of tree growth.

The area finally settled during the year was 333 square miles. The expenditure on settlements was Rs. 1,43,684. Of this sum Rs. 1,10,036 paid as compensation for extinction of rights in the Paunglaung Elephant Grazing Reserve, Yamèthin District, will be recovered from the lessees of Government

teak forests for whose sake the reserve was formed. The total length of boundaries at the close of the year was 21,970 miles, a decrease of 1,628 miles as compared with the previous year. The decrease is due to the exclusion of internal boundaries, common to two reserves, hitherto shown as external boundaries. During the year 716 miles of new boundaries were demarcated. Three hundred and thirty-eight miles of boundary remained to be demarcated at the close of the year. Four hundred and fourteen square miles of reserved forests, 4 square miles of unclassed forests and 227 linear miles of boundaries were surveyed during the year by the Topographical Branch of the Survey of India.

No working-plans were sanctioned by the Local Government during the year. Final orders were however passed by the Chief Conservator on working-plan reports for 1,581 square miles and the reports returned to Conservators for revision and submission in print. The field-work in connection with working-plans for 346 square miles (of which 154 square miles are for the exploitation of species other than teak) was completed during the year. Working-plans are still required for 8,154 square miles of reserved forests.

Protection of the forests.

97. Offences against forest rules rose during the year from 4,765 to 5,240. The increase was, as usual, under the head of unauthorized fellings (chiefly in the Pegu and Tenasserim Circles) and in several Divisions is attributed to the exhaustion of the supplies from unclassed forests. Fire-protection was slightly more successful than in the previous year. Protection was attempted over 2,910,983 acres and was successfully carried out over 2,813,942 acres at a cost of nearly Rs. 2·04 lakhs. The corresponding areas in the year 1912-13 were 4,040,247 acres and 3,842,479 acres. The decrease in the area under fire-protection is due to the permanent abandonment of protection in moist forests where fire-protection is now doing no good, and the temporary abandonment of fire-protection of areas where bamboos have flowered gregariously. Protection has also been abandoned in some reserves on financial grounds. Unclassed forests are open to free-grazing. Grazing in reserved forests is not much resorted to : 23 per cent. of the reserved forests are open to grazing. Illicit grazing is reported from the Prome, Shwegyin and Pegu Divisions and in the North Toungoo Division elephants are reported to be causing great damage to teak trees in plantations.

Improvement of the forests.

98. The expenditure on new buildings during the year amounted to Rs. 87,415. Of this sum Rs. 47,207 were spent on rest-houses, Rs. 29,158 on quarters for subordinates and the balance on headquarter houses and other buildings. Rupees 62,007 were spent on repairs to existing buildings. The expenditure on new roads and paths amounted to Rs. 82,183, of which Rs. 39,929 were for cart-roads and Rs. 40,021 for bridle-paths. Rupees 47,710 were spent on the repair of existing roads and paths. The area of regular plantations increased by 147 acres while the increase in the area of *taungya* plantations (principally teak) was 1,136 acres, of which 221 acres are due to recomputation of areas. Improvement fellings were made over 93,143 acres at a cost of Rs. 55,409.

Exploitation of teak and other woods.

99. The number of teak trees girdled during the year was 183,196, an increase of 15 per cent. on the figures for 1912-13. Over 53,000 tons of teak were extracted by Government agency ; of this quantity 70 per cent. were from the forests of the Pegu Circle. Purchasers extracted nearly 244,000 tons of teak against 214,000 tons in the previous year, the greater part of the increase being contributed by lessees. The extraction of other timber by purchasers showed an increase of 10 per cent. over the figures of the previous year, the increase being in the Pegu, Tenasserim, and Northern Circles chiefly under unreserved woods. There was a small decrease (11 per cent.) in the quantity of fuel extracted by purchasers. The timber extracted during the year on free-grants amounted to one and a third million cubic feet (of which 17 per cent. was teak) as compared with one and a half million cubic feet in the previous year.

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Finance.

100. The financial results are noticed in Chapter V in the section entitled Revenue and Finance other than Imperial.

Mines and Quarries.

The Indian Mines Act.

101. Mining activity in the Tavoy District continued to increase during the year of report, and the number of mines on which reports have been received from that District has risen to 54. A new mine was opened by the Burma Ruby Mines Company at Bernardmyo in the Ruby Mines District in August. Otherwise no changes are reported in the number of mines falling under the provisions of the Indian Mines Act. No advisory boards have as yet been constituted in the Province, but a Chamber of Mines which was formed in the Tavoy District in the beginning of the year, has given advice to the Deputy Commissioner on some technical questions. The health reports from Mergui and the Ruby Mines are again good, but there appears to have been only a slight improvement in the health of the employees in the Tavoy District. Though no special precautions exist in the last-named District for the purpose of keeping the mines sanitary, the natural drainage of the mining region is good. The wages received by coolies in the Ruby Mines are still 12 annas a day. In Mergui the coolies now receive Re. 1-8-0 a day. In Tavoy the contractual system of employing labour is still in vogue, but the rates are rising as the surface deposits are being worked out. The best and most numerous employees in Tavoy are Chinamen who appear to be peaceable. Women and children are employed only in Tavoy, and there only to a limited extent and in none but surface and alluvial workings. Accidents were less numerous in the year of report than in the previous year. In the Ruby Mines District there were no fatal accidents and only two serious ones, and no responsibility rested on the Company in either case. In Mergui there was one fatal accident, and in Tavoy accidents were responsible for 5 deaths and 8 serious injuries. An order was issued to one mine-owner under section 15 of the Mines Act by the Chief Inspector of Mines calling upon him to remove the danger from an unsupported overhanging wall, but there were no prosecutions under the Act during the year. In one case workings were shut down by an order issued by the District Magistrate of Tavoy under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

New concessions.

102. The year of report is noticeable for a marked lull in the prospecting fever. The number of applications for prospecting and exploring licenses disposed of during the year fell from 956 in 1912 to 539 in 1913. On the other hand 27 applications for mining leases were disposed of as compared with 12 in the previous year. As usual the bulk of the applications for prospecting licenses came from the Tavoy and Mergui Districts in the Tenasserim Division, and are largely for wolfram or tin. These two Districts account for 163 of the 236 applications pending at the end of the year for the whole Province. Large deposits of wolfram, antimony and tin are said to exist in the Amherst Subdivision of the Amherst District, but the licensees have not made much progress in these industries. Sixteen mining leases in all were granted in the whole Province during the year, and of these 13 were for mineral oils, chiefly in the Minbu District.

Petroleum.

103. The output of petroleum in Burma in 1913 amounted to 273 million gallons valued at Rs. 153 lakhs, and exceeded the output in 1912 by 28 million gallons. Almost the whole of the petroleum came from the four Districts of Pakôkku, Minbu, Magwe and Myingyan, the rest of the Province contributing less than 100,000 gallons. The Magwe District, which contains the Yenangyaung oil-field, accounted for just over 200 million gallons, nearly 21 million gallons more than in the previous year. Although the average production per well has dropped, the companies are keeping up to the total production of petroleum by increased activity and the introduction of improved methods. In Myingyan the output was 63½ million gallons as compared with 56½ millions in 1912. Pakôkku and Minbu contribute about 5½ and 3 million gallons respectively; the Pakôkku figures being

higher and the Minbu figures lower than in the preceding year. The only other Districts in which oil was produced were the Akyab, Kyaukpyu and Thayetmyo Districts. Thayetmyo was the largest producer of the three, but the oil industry there did not develop during the year, and the output was only 30,240 gallons as compared with 53,450 gallons in the previous year. In the Upper Chindwin District drilling operations made considerable progress, and an application was made for a mining lease for oil over an area of 6 square miles.

Gold.

104. The production of gold increased slightly during the year. The output of the Burma Gold Dredging Company in the Myitkyina District rose from 4,995 ounces to 5,330 ounces. Elsewhere the production is so small as to be almost negligible. Returns are available for three Districts only, the Pakôkku, Katha and Upper Chindwin Districts, of which the last named is the largest producer with 43 ounces. Gold-washing is also reported to have been carried on on a small scale by villagers in the Shwebo District.

Rubies.

105. The Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited, owned the mines in the Mogôk valley of the Ruby Mines District throughout the year. During the year ending the 30th June 1914 rubies, sapphires and spinels were extracted to the value of Rs. 6·17 lakhs, Rs. 33,512 and Rs. 7,625 respectively. The corresponding values in the previous year were Rs. 9·24 lakhs, Rs. 65,000 and Rs. 9,590. The European ruby market was not favourable, and the local prices were lower than in the preceding year, whilst the market for sapphires was uncertain. Royalties collected from the native miners by the Company during the year amounted to Rs. 2·85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·87 lakhs in the year 1912-13. At the end of 1913 the proceeds of local sales fell off to such an extent that the Company asked for permission to retain the royalties from native miners as a temporary measure, and the royalties collected since February 1914, which amounted to Rs. 1,05,200, have not been credited to Government. The operations of the Company were extended to Bernardmyo and Kathè. Ruby-bearing ground was discovered during the year in the Momeik State, and the royalties collected there from the native miners by Government up to the end of June amounted to Rs. 1,740.

Other minerals.

106. The production of wolfram from mines which do not come under the provisions of the Indian Mines Act fell to 228½ tons valued at Rs. 2·90 lakhs. Wolfram from mines falling under the Act totalled 1,475 tons valued at Rs. 16·67 lakhs, making a total production for the Province of 1,703½ tons valued at Rs. 19·57 lakhs. Of this total Mergui produced 205 tons and Tavoy 1,498 tons. The production of tin-ore rose from 1,025 cwts. to 1,319 cwts., whilst the total production of tin from mines falling within and outside the Mines Act amounted to 4,067 cwts. The amounts of lead slag and silver lead ore respectively extracted in the Northern Shan States were 16,360 tons valued at Rs. 2·25 lakhs, and 3,939 tons valued at Rs. 2·78 lakhs as compared with 22,626 tons and 2,950 tons in the previous year. The production of copper ore declined from 624 to 150 tons. There was a considerable revival in the jade-mining industry in the Myitkyina District. Three thousand two hundred and eighty-one cwts. valued at Rs. 1·92 lakh were extracted during the year as compared with 806 cwts. in 1912.

Quarry stones and clay.

107. The total value of granite extracted during the year was Rs. 5·20 lakhs. The Kalagauk Island in the Amherst District was responsible for the greater part of this amount, but the Thatôn District was also a large producer, and seven Districts in all contributed to the total. Clay for pottery, and laterite, limestone and gravel for the requirements of the Public Works Department, the Burma Railways, and Municipalities were produced in large quantities.

Revenue from mines and quarries.

108. The receipts from fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber rose from Rs. 33·17 lakhs to Rs. 33·51 lakhs or by slightly more than one per cent. The substantial increase of Rs. 1·18 lakh is reported from the Magwe District, and Myingyan returns an increase of Rs. 71,061. On the other hand

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the failure of protracted efforts to find oil in Minbu and Thayetmyo led to considerable decreases in these Districts. The revenue from licenses to collect royalty on jadestone in Myitkyina increased from Rs. 12,495 to Rs. 34,285 but there was a decrease of Rs. 1·41 lakh in royalties on precious stones in the Ruby Mines District. Fees, rents, and royalties on other minerals produced a total revenue of Rs. 2·25 lakhs or Rs. 39,699 more than in the previous year. The Tavoy District alone records an increase of Rs. 44,312, so that for the rest of the Province there was a slight decrease. The most notable decreases occurred in the Salween, Thatôn, Amherst, and Minbu Districts. The failure to find wolfram in paying quantities in Thatôn and Amherst has led to a considerable decrease in the number of applications for new prospecting licenses and in the number of renewals of expiring licenses. In the Tavoy District an increase in the outturn of wolfram accounted for an advance under the head of royalties, and acreage fees or surface rent also increased.

Manufactures.

Principal industries.

109. The numbers of persons supported by the various manufacturing industries of the Province are given in the Census Report of 1911. Burma still remains primarily an agricultural country and there is not very much change to report in 1913. There has been a steady advance in the number of persons employed in the larger industries which fall directly within the purview of the Factories Act, but this affects immigrants from India rather than the indigenous population. The largest of these industries is rice-milling which accounts for more than a half of the registered factories of the Province, and nearly a half of the persons employed therein. The other most important industries are petroleum-refining, saw-milling, and transport industries. Silk-weaving still prospers in the Mandalay District, and a weaving school in Amarapura Town is doing much for the development of this industry. Silk-weaving is also of importance in the Shwedaung Township of the Prome District, but the industry does not seem to be in a very flourishing condition there at present. Groundnut oil mills are increasing in importance. Less groundnut oil was imported for consumption in the Province during the year, and there is no reason why the Province should not supply its own needs. Leather-work and cane-work are taught at an industrial school which was opened at Meiktila about five years ago. There is nothing of special note to report with regard to other indigenous industries, such as the manufacture of cigars, pots, mats, umbrellas, ngapi, shoes, and carts.

Factories.

110. There were 424 factories registered at the end of the year as compared with 438 in 1912. The decrease is however only apparent, and is due to the fact that several factories had previously been maintained in the register although they had been closed for several years, or had never employed as many as 20 persons. In all 47 factories were deleted from the register, and 33 fresh factories were added. The number of rice-mills registered was 240 as compared with 245 in 1912, but there was no change in the number actually working. The number of saw-mills working increased by one, and there was an equal decrease in the number of cotton-mills. Of the 424 factories registered there were 196 in each of which 50 or more persons were employed. The average daily number of operatives rose from 50,723 to 63,066, rice-mills alone accounting for a rise of 10,483. The number of adult males rose from 46,358 to 58,306, of adult females from 3,523 to 3,681, and of children from 842 to 1,079. Of the 58,306 adult males 25,484 worked in the Rangoon Town District, and 10,094 in the Hanthawaddy District. In Upper Burma women are extensively employed as coolies in the rice-mills, and a large number work in the cotton ginning factories in Myingyan and Allanmyo. In Lower Burma the employment of women is confined almost entirely to very light work in boxing candles and matches. The proportions of women and children employed are much higher in Upper than in Lower Burma. One occupier was prosecuted during the year for employing children in clearing up in a saw-mill without having

obtained certificates of fitness. Very few of these certificates appear to have been issued to children. Occupiers have been warned and if no improvement is affected, further prosecutions will follow.

During the busy season there is considerable difficulty in obtaining labour in certain parts of the Province, and wages are consequently high. In the Tenasserim Division especially the demand has been very great. No exact statistics are available but coolies who ship the bags of rice in Moulmein are said to make as much as Rs. 3 a day. This work is specially laborious and intermittent but hoppering coolies get from Rs. 14 to Rs. 18 a month, and the wages of mill hands vary from Rs. 14 upwards. In Moulmein however coolies have to find their own quarters. In Rangoon and elsewhere where quarters are provided the wages are less. There is no fixed standard for the pay of skilled labour which varies even in mills of the same class.

No special ill-health has been traced to the employment of operatives. Sanitary accommodation is usually sufficient, but in many cases the water-supply leaves much to be desired. The mill population on the south of the Rangoon river has to obtain most of its water from the Rangoon side by means of boats. In Akyab the mills are on the two sides of a creek, and those on one side which are not supplied with Municipal water suffered from cholera. The question of dust in rice mills received much attention during the year, and several satisfactory exhaust installations were brought to notice. Attention has been paid to the question of fencing, and the need of additional safeguards has been pointed out to managers. The number of accidents reported rose from 349 to 375, of which 13, the same number as in the previous year, were fatal. Serious accidents fell from 150 to 96. The Inspector of Factories under the Act of 1911 assumed charge of his duties at the beginning of the year, and the number of factories inspected rose from 302 to 384.

Trade.

Maritime trade : total value and revenue.

III. The aggregate value of the total sea-borne trade of the Province was Rs. 77,41·11 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 1,48·43 lakhs, or about 2 per cent. over the figures of 1912-13. Leaving treasure and Government stores out of account, the combined value of imports and exports of private merchandise advanced by 4·6 per cent. to Rs. 69,51·75 lakhs. The value of gold imported from foreign and Indian ports rose from Rs. 66·16 lakhs to Rs. 2,00·78 lakhs, the major portion of which was imported by Government from India. Of this total sovereigns accounted for Rs. 1,73·91 lakhs or, if exports be deducted, Rs. 1,37·99 lakhs. These figures suggest that gold as a medium of currency is growing in favour. The imports of silver show a decrease and the exports an increase, but imports still exceeded exports by Rs. 1,13·46 lakhs.

The total trade in private merchandise to foreign ports and Indian ports other than Burman rose by Rs. 2,26·65 lakhs to Rs. 64,31·77 lakhs. Both imports and exports show an increase. Exports advanced by Rs. 39·15 lakhs. The value of the export trade of rice amounted to 66 per cent. of the total value of all exports from the Province. The figures for this trade established a record and showed an improvement of 17·88 per cent. in quantity and ·74 per cent. in value on those of the previous year. A decline in the average price was more than set off by an increase in the quantity exported. The most marked feature of the year was the demand for rice in India and the consequent decline in exports to foreign countries. The value of rice exported to foreign countries fell from over Rs. 22,75 lakhs to under 18,00 lakhs of rupees, whilst exports to India rose from Rs. 2,78 lakhs to Rs. 8,05 lakhs. Notable increases also occurred in the exports of mineral-oils, hides, and groundnuts, whilst the value of timber and lead exported declined. The total quantity of cotton exported was slightly less than in the previous year, but this was more than compensated for by the rise in price. On the other hand rubber with an increase in quantity of 45 per cent. shows a slight decline in value. Imports advanced by Rs. 1,87·50 lakhs and amounted to Rs. 25,40·58 lakhs. The import trade from Indian ports outside Burma declined, whilst there was an increase of imports from foreign ports of Rs. 2,13 lakhs. The

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advance was fairly general, but there is reason to believe that the serious overstocking of some classes of goods has been the result. Specially large rises are noticeable in cotton manufactures, metals and machinery. The value of the private coastal trade between different ports of Burma rose from Rs. 4·40 lakhs to Rs. 5·20 lakhs, an increase of 18 per cent. In imports there was a total increase of 17 per cent. in which every port shared. Exports advanced by 19 per cent. but the advance was not general. Most of the trade was between Rangoon and the Tenasserim ports.

The value of trade in private merchandise with Indian ports outside Burma rose from Rs. 19,45,06,927 to Rs. 24,20,85,816. As already noted there was a very large rise in the value of rice exported to Indian ports; the actual quantity was more than three times as large as in the previous year. There were noticeable rises in the imports of jute manufactures and tobacco, whilst, as a natural concomitant of the increased export trade in rice, imports of grain and pulse fell by over a hundred lakhs of rupees.

The balance of trade in the combined external trade of Burma as represented by the excess in the value of exports over imports amounted to 11 crores. The imports of treasure however exceeded the exports by about two crores, so that there was a net balance of 9 crores as against 11 crores in the previous year. Rangoon as usual obtained the bulk of the trade of the Province. Of the other ports Bassein led the way in Foreign trade, but in total Foreign and Coasting Trade was considerably behind Moulmein whose share was 7·06 per cent. The development of the neighbouring country and improvements in communications by water have resulted in a general improvement in the trade of the smaller ports on the Tenasserim coast.

The net customs duty realized, inclusive of the duty on imported salt, was Rs. 2,00,66,900, or Rs. 3·38 lakhs less than in the previous year. This decline is entirely due to the fact that so large a quantity of rice went to India instead of to foreign ports. Otherwise from a revenue point of view the year was eminently satisfactory. The collection of import duty, excluding that on salt, established a record, and was 11·8 per cent. better than the high figures of the previous year. The duty on salt also advanced by 5·6 per cent. Of other imports liquors with an advance of Rs. 2·63 lakhs and cotton with an advance of Rs. 2·88 lakhs contribute Rs. 26·29 lakhs and Rs. 16·06 lakhs, respectively. Increases also occurred in receipts from tobacco, silk goods, and sugar, whilst petroleum shows a slight decline. The total gross revenue collected at Rangoon was Rs. 1,70·90 lakhs, and an additional sum of Rs. 22·49 lakhs was also realized at Rangoon on account of export duty on rice shipped at out-ports. The gross revenue collections at the subordinate ports amounted to Rs. 32·31 lakhs. Of this sum Rs. 29·63 lakhs represented export duty on rice, of which only Rs. 7·14 lakhs were actually collected at the out-ports. The collections for the various out-ports were Bassein Rs. 15·17 lakhs, Moulmein Rs. 11·30 lakhs, Akyab Rs. 4·82 lakhs, Tavoy Rs. ·68 lakh, Mergui Rs. ·27 lakh, and Victoria Point Rs. ·07 lakh. The figure of Rs. 11·30 lakhs at Moulmein shows a substantial increase of Rs. 2·64 lakhs, and is only Rs. ·39 lakh short of the record figure of the year 1902-03.

Rangoon trade: total figures.

112. The total value of all articles, excluding treasure, imported into Rangoon during the year was Rs. 15,67 lakhs as compared with Rs. 13,56 lakhs in the previous year. The value of goods imported from India (excluding other ports in Burma) declined from Rs. 8,62·45 lakhs to Rs. 8,22·15 lakhs. Exports from Rangoon to foreign countries, again excluding treasure, show a decline from Rs. 21,26 lakhs to Rs. 17,23 lakhs, and exports to India a rise from Rs. 7,79 lakhs to Rs. 11,95 lakhs. Trade with other ports in Burma has increased both in imports and exports. Rangoon's share of the foreign trade of the Province has increased from 81·95 to 82·72 per cent., whilst her share of the trade with India has declined from 85·28 to 83·41 per cent.

Rangoon trade: foreign imports.

113. The favourable prospects and the general feeling of confidence at the end of the previous year led to overtrading in cotton goods in 1913-14. The combined foreign and coasting trade in *Textiles—Cotton*, advanced by Rs. 25·95

lakhs to Rs. 6,02 lakhs, which is the highest value yet recorded, and represents 25·2 per cent. of the aggregate value of private merchandise imported. Importations of foreign and Indian yarns had been overdone in 1912-13, with the result that the imports in 1913-14 declined by 5,706,396 lbs. worth Rs. 43·24 lakhs to 12,865,347 lbs. worth Rs. 77·24 lakhs. *Coloured yarns*, coming mostly from the United Kingdom, showed a decrease of 38 per cent. in quantity and of 37 per cent. in value; whilst the import of *Indian yarns*, principally grey, also declined by 3,432,995 lbs. valued at Rs. 23·57 lakhs to 9,885,574 lbs. valued at Rs. 48·83 lakhs.

Foreign imports of *piece-goods* surpassed all previous records, and increased by over 14 million yards in quantity and Rs. 58·18 lakhs in value. Ninety-three per cent. of *grey*, 95 per cent. of *white*, and 75 per cent. of *coloured* goods came from the United Kingdom. Of the other cotton manufactures *blankets* advanced by Rs. 19·56 lakhs to Rs. 38·77 lakhs, of which Germany's share was Rs. 16·93 lakhs, Belgium's Rs. 10·27 lakhs, and Holland's Rs. 10·14 lakhs. There was a falling off under the headings *handkerchiefs and shawls* and *sewing thread* (both mainly from the United Kingdom) and an advance in *hosiery*. Out of the total value (Rs. 22·81 lakhs) of *hosiery*, Germany's share rose from Rs. 8·31 lakhs to Rs. 10·51 lakhs, and Japan's from Rs. 6·14 lakhs to Rs. 9·64 lakhs. Imports of piece-goods of Indian manufacture from India declined by Rs. 10·24 lakhs to Rs. 45·77 lakhs. The imports of piece-goods of foreign manufacture from India varied only slightly in amount from the imports of the previous year. Under the head *textile—silk* imports fell from Rs. 1,01·68 lakhs to Rs. 86·32 lakhs. Imports of raw silk fell by 18 per cent. in volume and 23 per cent. in value. The decrease was most marked in goods coming from China, Indo-China, and Japan. Japan supplied 94 per cent. of the total value of importations of piece-goods (*pure*) which also showed a decrease. *Piece-goods of silk mixed with other materials* which mostly came from the United Kingdom increased by 43 per cent. in quantity and 29 per cent. in value. The woollen trade shows a large improvement with an increase by Rs. 18·52 lakhs or 48 per cent. The share of the United Kingdom advanced from Rs. 19·61 lakhs to Rs. 31·94 lakhs, and of Germany from Rs. 13·51 lakhs to Rs. 14·71 lakhs. *Piece-goods* constitute the largest item, but *carpets and rugs* also showed a large rise. *Hosiery* remained practically stationary, whilst the importation of *shawls* declined. Imports of *apparel* rose by Rs. 3·43 lakhs to Rs. 16·90 lakhs. An enormous increase from Rs. 4·02 lakhs to Rs. 19·21 lakhs occurred under the heading *boots and shoes*, the United Kingdom contributing 90 per cent. of the total.

The total value of the imports of *metals and ores* was Rs. 1,47·24 lakhs, or 36 per cent. more than in 1912-13. An increase in beams, pillars and girders is due to greater activity in the building trade, and has no doubt been assisted by the high price of teak. Building activities also account for an increase in materials such as *nails, rivets and washers, and sheets and plates*. All the metals show an advance. Of the total importation under this head, 65 per cent. came from the United Kingdom, 16 per cent. from the United States, 11 per cent. from Belgium and 5 per cent. from Germany. There was a further expansion in the *hardware* trade, the total value of imports under this head rising from Rs. 45·09 lakhs to Rs. 53·05 lakhs. The United Kingdom contributed Rs. 25·54 lakhs to this total, Germany Rs. 11·00 lakhs, and Austria-Hungary Rs. 8·83 lakhs. Machinery and mill-work show an improvement by 48 per cent. to Rs. 46·30 lakhs, whilst Railway Plant and Rolling Stock, the importations of which were somewhat abnormal in 1912-13, declined. *Provisions and oilmanstores* made a further advance from Rs. 77·48 lakhs to Rs. 89·52 lakhs. Whilst *biscuits* remained almost stationary, *milk, condensed* and *preserved*, made a further advance to Rs. 24·17 lakhs, a figure which represents 63 per cent. of the total imports of this article into British India. Holland supplied the largest share followed closely by the United Kingdom. Of the total value of importations under this head the United Kingdom supplied 45 per cent. as compared with 52 per cent. in 1912-13. The importation of provisions coastwise (excluding fish and fruits dried, etc.) rose by Rs. 24·59 lakhs to Rs. 79·58 lakhs. There was a rise of about 2 per cent. in quantity in importations of fish (excluding canned fish) from foreign ports, and 22 per cent. in the coasting trade. The principal item was dry unsalted fish.

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Importations of *salt* varied but slightly both in tonnage and value from those of the previous year. The high figures of the previous year for *refined sugar* were not maintained, imports falling from Rs. 57·80 lakhs to Rs. 51·98 lakhs. Java sugar again predominated, providing 87 per cent. of the total quantity imported. Importations of cane sugar from Hongkong and of beet-sugar from Austria-Hungary declined. Java sent almost twice as much *molasses* as in 1912-13, and there was a substantial increase in saccharine. The importation of sugar from India showed an interesting advance from 27,832 cwts. to 47,718 cwts.

There was a further substantial increase under the head *Liquors*, and the value recorded both for *malt liquor* (ale, beer and porter) and for *spirits* are the highest on record. Under the former head there was an increase of nearly 10 per cent. in quantity and 9 per cent. in value. *Spirits* rose from Rs. 18·91 lakhs to Rs. 22·11 lakhs, the most marked increase being in perfumed spirits. There was a steady increase in the clearances for consumption. The total imports of wines fell slightly.

The year was a prosperous one for the tobacco trade. Importations of *manufactured* and *unmanufactured tobacco* increased by Rs. 24·41 lakhs to Rs. 65·69 lakhs. Rupees 21·51 lakhs of this increase were provided by the coasting trade from India the volume of which rose by about 100 per cent. In the foreign trade there was a slight falling off in cigars, but a very substantial increase in cigarettes. *Mineral oils* show a decline of six million gallons in quantity, and Rs. six lakhs in value. This is mainly attributable to the absence of importations of *fuel* oil from Dutch Borneo. An increase of about Rs. 3¼ lakhs in value in *cement* is attributed to building activity and the requirements of the Rangoon roads. The imports of *foreign coal* fell by nearly 12,000 tons, importations from Japan declining by about 21,000 tons. The imports from India showed a satisfactory increase of nearly 17,000 tons, and reached a value of Rs. 56·78 lakhs. *Cutlery* increased by nearly Rs. two lakhs in value, and *cycles* (*other than motor cycles*) by about 33 per cent. Importations of *matches* of which about 86 per cent. came from Japan decreased by Rs. 4·02 lakhs. The number of *motor-cars* and *motor-cycles* imported, rose from 227 to 511. *Sewing* and *knitting machines* advanced by 4,759 in number and Rs. 3·04 lakhs in value.

Rangoon trade: foreign exports.

114. The principal exports from Rangoon to foreign countries and India in order of value were rice husked and unhusked, mineral oils, wood and timber, cotton, hides and skins. The total value of rice exported from Rangoon to foreign countries and India was Rs. 17,49·76 lakhs as compared with Rs. 17,53·58 lakhs in the previous year. But whilst the exports to India rose from Rs. 1,49·30 lakhs to Rs. 5,77·14 lakhs, those to foreign ports declined from Rs. 16,04·28 lakhs to Rs. 11,72·62 lakhs. For the whole of Burma, Rangoon's share in the shipments from which amounted to 68 per cent., activity in the Indian trade meant contraction in the foreign, and foreign shipments show a falling off of 206,717 tons valued at Rs. 5,08·01 lakhs. Shipments to the United Kingdom, Continental Europe, the Far East, and Australasia all declined, whereas those to Ceylon, Africa and America increased. The total exports from the Province of *rice bran* diminished by 1,346 tons and Rs. 29·82 lakhs to 208,920 tons valued at Rs. 64·70 lakhs. The amount shipped from Rangoon, however, increased by 5,842 tons to 196,967 tons. The amount of teak exported from Rangoon fell from 144,853 cubic tons to 121,169 cubic tons. The decrease is not due to lack of demand but to the absorption of stocks by the large demands of previous years. The largest foreign markets were the United Kingdom and Germany which took 27,416 cubic tons and 6,282 cubic tons respectively from the whole Province. Foreign trade in other kinds of timber has expanded, 44,080 cubic tons having been exported from Rangoon and Moulmein as compared with 33,059 cubic tons in the previous year. The great bulk of this timber, which consisted mainly of *eng* and *pyinkado*, went to India. The year was a prosperous one for the *mineral oils* export trade. The exports of mineral oils expanded by more than five million gallons, and the export of all petroleum products showed an improvement of roughly 7 per cent. on the previous year's figures. No *kerosene oil* was exported to foreign countries, but the demand from India was well maintained. A fresh record in the exports to foreign

countries of *other kinds of oils* is attributed to the increased shipment of benzine to Europe. The total value of the export trade in mineral oils for the whole Province was Rs. 14,10,91,098 as compared with Rs. 13,54,31,121 in 1912-13. The value of the exports of *paraffin wax* and *candles* rose to the record figures of Rs. 63·50 lakhs and Rs. 23·15 lakhs respectively. The value of *hides* and *skins* exported from Rangoon to foreign ports rose from Rs. 64·53 to Rs. 79·12 lakhs. There was a falling off in the demand from the United Kingdom, but a great increase in the trade of raw buffalo hides to Turkey in Asia and the Levant. As regards raw hides, Italy again led the way with a demand of Rs. 15·97 lakhs. The total quantity of *cotton* exported was slightly less than in the previous year, but there was an increase in value to the record figure of Rs. 89·83 lakhs. A prosperous year for the cotton crops in India resulted in a large reduction in the amount of cotton exported from Burma to India and Japan, but this was set off by the increase in the export to Europe. The export trade in *groundnuts* to foreign countries was nearly double that of the previous year, there being an advance by Rs. 17·41 lakhs to Rs. 37·02 lakhs. The best customer was Hongkong followed by France. Exports to India, chiefly to Bengal, also rose slightly. The foreign trade in *beans* showed some progress, and exports of *rubber*, though declining slightly in value, show a large increase in quantity. Foreign exports in *cutch* and *lac* decreased. The exports of *lead*, the trade in which is in the hands of one firm, fell from Rs. 18·48 lakhs to Rs. 8·77 lakhs. The foreign trade in *wolfram*, which is now attracting considerable attention in the Province, shows a substantial increase, and the trade in *jade-stone* showed a further recovery after the set-back it received in 1911-12 owing to revolutionary disturbances in China.

Rangoon trade: British share.

115. The United Kingdom's share of the trade of Rangoon was 56·01 per cent. of the imports, and 18·87 per cent. of the exports. The British Empire supplied 63·61 per cent. of the imports and took 47·50 per cent. of the exports. The shares of the United Kingom and British Empire respectively in the total trade rose from 32·47 and 53·2 per cent. to 36·51 and 55·15 per cent. Of foreign countries Japan leads the way with a percentage of 9 followed by Germany with 8·14, Holland with 4·73, Egypt with 4·63, and Belgium with 3·43.

Rangoon Coasting trade.

116. The value of the import trade from Rangoon to other ports in Burma rose from Rs. 57·05 lakhs to Rs. 61·35 lakhs, and of the export trade from Rs. 1,37·29 lakhs to Rs. 1,74·69 lakhs. Most of the trade was with the ports of the Tenasserim Division. Rangoon's share in the coasting trade of the Province was 22·6 per cent. of the imports, and 70·4 per cent. of the exports.

Subordinate ports.

117. Rangoon absorbs 80·17 per cent. of the total foreign and coasting trade of the country, leaving 19·83 per cent. to be divided amongst the subordinate ports. Of these ports Moulmein leads the way with a rise from 6·62 to 7·06 per cent., Akyab is second with 5·15 per cent., and Bassein drops to third place with 5·08 per cent. In the export trade to foreign countries however Bassein still maintains a substantial lead, and accounts for Rs. 15·17 lakhs in export duty as compared with Rs. 10·07 lakhs for Moulmein, and Rs. 3·74 lakhs for Akyab. Of the rice exported from the Province 13 per cent. was sent from Bassein, 10 per cent. from Akyab, and 9 per cent. from Moulmein. Moulmein shared with Rangoon a decline in exports of teak, but registered an increase in the total value of all kinds of timber exported from Rs. 61·64 lakhs to Rs. 62·62 lakhs. The revenue collections at this port show a substantial increase of Rs. 2·64 lakhs. There is very little import work at Akyab or Bassein, the major portion of the goods going to these ports being cleared at Rangoon, or, in the case of Akyab, Calcutta. Tavoy and Mergui with improved communications absorb a large portion of the inter-coastal trade of the Province, and their shares of the foreign trade of the country have also increased.

Trans-frontier trade: total trade.

118. The total value of the trans-frontier trade during the year 1913-14 was Rs. 7,55·43 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7,42·64 lakhs in 1912-13. Merchandise, timber, and treasure represented 71, 6, and 23 per cent. of the aggregate value as compared with 71, 5 and 24 per cent. in the previous year. As was to be

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expected after the record increase of the previous year exports declined, but imports rose from Rs. 3,66·69 lakhs to Rs. 3,98·39 lakhs, and imports exceeded exports by Rs. 41·35 lakhs. A remarkable increase occurred in the imports of cattle, the value of which in the year of report was Rs. 52,39,053 as compared with Rs. 33,44,554 in the previous year. Exports of cotton and leather goods showed a considerable decline from last year's figures, but are still above the average for the last three years.

Western China.

119. The total value of the trade with Western China very nearly maintained the high level reached in 1912-13. Exports decreased from Rs. 69·10 lakhs to Rs. 66·82 lakhs, but imports increased from Rs. 59·08 lakhs to Rs. 60·96 lakhs. The import trade was particularly active in hides and silk, the total value of the trade in hides increasing by over Rs. 2 lakhs, and in raw silk by nearly Rs. 3 lakhs. Although the imports of silver declined by Rs. 4½ lakhs, silver is still responsible for more than half of the total imports of all kinds. Other imports of value were living animals, provisions, and vegetables. For the decline in the export trade twist and yarn (Indian) is mainly responsible with a fall in value from over Rs. 33 lakhs to under 27 lakhs of rupees. European piece-goods, however, show an increase from Rs. 19·25 lakhs to Rs. 23·62 lakhs, and raw cotton also increased in spite of the great progress it made in the previous year. Raw cotton and cotton goods of all kinds are responsible for about 79 per cent. of the total value of exports the other principal exports being silver, jadestone and wet salted fish (*ngapi*).

The Northern Shan States and Unadministered Kachin country.

120. Trade with the Northern Shan States declined both in exports and imports. The imports fell from Rs. 1,39·53 lakhs to Rs. 1,35·62 lakhs, and the exports from Rs. 1,40·18 lakhs to Rs. 1,24·75 lakhs. The importation of lead fell in value from Rs. 21½ lakhs to Rs. 12½ lakhs, a decrease corresponding with the large decrease in the export of lead from Burma by sea. Foreign tea fell by Rs. 5 lakhs, but pickled tea on the other hand shows the large increase of over Rs. 9 lakhs. A fall of Rs. 8 lakhs in the value of exports of iron is due to there being a smaller demand for the commodity from the Burma Mines Company. The transfrontier trade with China suffered from the rumour of impending troubles in Yünnan during the early part of the year, and from the failure of a large firm of Chinese traders in old Lashio. The principal articles of import into Burma in the order of values imported were pickled tea, foreign tea, silver, lead, teak, hides and husked rice, while the chief articles of export from Burma were twist and yarn, iron, silver, salted fish (*ngapi*) and dry fish. Iron and twist and yarn alone account for about half the total value of the exports.

The total value of the trade between Burma and the Unadministered Kachin country in 1913-14 was more than double that in 1912-13, the imports rising from Rs. 2·24 lakhs to Rs. 3·79 lakhs and the exports from Rs. 2·47 lakhs to Rs. 5·93 lakhs.

The Southern Shan States.

121. The total imports from the Southern Shan States for the year are valued at Rs. 1,00·86 lakhs, and slightly more than balance the exports valued at Rs. 99·53 lakhs. In the two previous years the exports had been considerably in excess of the imports, but in the year of report there was an increase of imports by Rs. 17 lakhs, and a decrease of exports by Rs. 10 lakhs. The total trade of the year shows an increase of 3·56 per cent. The value of imported cattle rose from Rs. 18·74 lakhs to Rs. 29·13 lakhs, and imports of potatoes, teak, silver, and elephants, each accounted for increases of over a lakh of rupees in value. On the other hand the value of imports of *thanatpet* (cigar wrappers) declined by Rs. 2 lakhs. The only remarkable change in the exports is the decline in value by over Rs. 11 lakhs of European cotton piece-goods, due to the markets having been overstocked in the previous year. The principal imports from the Southern Shan States in order of value were cattle, silver, *Thanatpet* (cigar wrappers), elephants, teak, horses (including ponies and mules), and potatoes, while European cotton piece-goods still headed the list of exports, followed by silver, silk piece-goods, betel-nuts, apparel, and dry-fish.

Siam and Karenni.

122. Freedom from serious epidemics in Northern Siam allowed of an expansion of trade with Burma from Rs. 69·37 lakhs to Rs. 77·28 lakhs. Imports into Burma increased to Rs. 43·26 lakhs, and exports from Burma to Rs. 34·02 lakhs. The value of the import trade in cattle and elephants increased respectively by Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 2½ lakhs, whilst there was a considerable decline in imports of silver, teak and manufactured silk. Silver is solely responsible for the increase in exports. Cattle, silver, teak and elephants were the only important articles of import into Burma, whilst the principal exports were silver and manufactured cotton goods.

The imports from Southern Siam increased from Rs. 11·26 lakhs to Rs. 14·03 lakhs, whilst the exports fell from Rs. 9·67 lakhs to Rs. 9·08 lakhs. The number and value of cattle and elephants imported into Burma during the year was considerably greater than in 1912-13. The only other important imports were manufactured piece-goods and silver. The decrease in the export trade is attributed to the progress made by the Siamese railway system and the partial diversion of their trade from Moulmein to Bangkok.

The year was a prosperous one for trade with Karenni. Imports rose from Rs. 31·20 lakhs to Rs. 39·84 lakhs, and exports from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 16·88 lakhs. Cattle and teak are chiefly responsible for the rise in imports. Towards the end of the year the importation began of wolfram extracted by the Mawchi Tin and Wolfram Mines, Limited. The only other important imports were silver and elephants. About two-thirds of the total exports are comprised of silver.

Public Works.

Administrative and general.

123. No important administrative changes took place in the Public Works Department during the year. The total expenditure of the department, excluding expenditure on Irrigation, amounted to Rs. 1,33·26 lakhs. These figures show a large increase over the figures for the previous year when the expenditure totalled Rs. 1,14·59 lakhs. The total grant includes special assignments of funds from Imperial grants principally for Education, and Medical purposes, and improvement of roads. The expenditure on roads alone exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 7 lakhs. The total assignment from Education grants was Rs. 7·22 lakhs, but of this only Rs. 3·03 lakhs were utilized. A committee was appointed by the Educational authorities to draw up type plans for schools and hostels, and until these plans are produced progress must be retarded.

(i) *Roads and Buildings.*

Communications.

124. The total length of metalled roads outside Municipal boundaries and maintained by the Public Works Department and the local authorities was at the close of the year 1,976 miles, and of unmetalled road 11,163 miles. Four and-a-half miles of metalled and 1,377 of unmetalled roads were maintained by local authorities, and the remainder by the Public Works Department. The total length of metalled roads has declined by 30 miles, but the opening of new roads has caused an increase of 722 miles in unmetalled roads. From the special contribution of Rs. 50 lakhs received from the Government of India for expenditure on improvements to communications, a sum of about Rs. 14·11 lakhs was utilized during the year. Expenditure on the special grant was again chiefly on the replacement of old wooden bridges by permanent structures. The total expenditure on original works amounted to Rs. 21·76 lakhs, and in repairs to Rs. 28·03 lakhs. Expenditure on repairs decreased, but that on original works was greater by Rs. 10·16 lakhs than in the previous year. Progress in the erection of permanent bridges was particularly marked on the Rangoon-Insein, Rangoon-Prome, Pegu-Toungoo, Nyaunglebin-Pazunmyaung, and Thazi-Taunggyi roads. Of the major bridges the iron work for the superstructure of a 90-foot span bridge over the Minhla *chaung* on the Rangoon-Prome road was manufactured locally, and a new bridge of four spans of 60 feet over the Pauktaing river at Tavoy was sanctioned and commenced. Other large bridges

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which were in progress included a bridge 100 feet long on the Pagaye-Myitta road, and bridges over the Samôn River at Dwehla, and the Bethwe *chaung* on the Kyaukpadaung-Thambulla road. Some work was also done on the widening and metalling of existing roads. The Minbu-Salin road and a portion of the Minbu-Kyauko road were demarcated during the year, and the metalling of the former road was completed for a total expenditure of Rs. 1·97 lakh. Bridges absorbed a large part of the expenditure on unmetalled as well as on metalled roads. Reinforced concrete floors were under construction for six bridges on the Toungoo-Frontier road, and progress was made in the construction of new or renewal of old masonry bridges on several other roads. The abutments of a deck bridge consisting of two spans of 50 feet over the Sunlôn *chaung* on the Myingyan-Meiktila road, and a suspension bridge over the Mongbakha *chaung* on the Lweje-Pankham road were nearing completion at the close of the year.

Buildings—Imperial and Provincial.

125. The expenditure on Civil Imperial works during the year was Rs. 3·64 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·50 lakhs in the previous year. The chief buildings in progress or completed during the year were the new Customs House and the Telegraph Office at Rangoon, the Post Office at Mandalay, and the unconsecrated Military Church at Maymyo, all of which have been designed by the Consulting Architect to the Government of India. The first two of these projects, estimated to cost Rs. 5·35 and Rs. 6·98 lakhs, respectively, are in progress, while the Mandalay Post Office has been completed for an expenditure of Rs. 1·45 lakh, and the masonry of the main building of the church has been finished. The expenditure on Civil Provincial buildings was Rs. 28·85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 23·49 lakhs in the previous year. Rs. 7·84 lakhs were spent in repairs, and Rs. 21·01 lakhs on original works. The new Chemical and Physical Laboratories in connection with the Government College, Rangoon, have been designed by the Consulting Architect to the Government of Burma; the former building has been completed and the latter is in course of construction. The administrative block and the Police Surgeon's quarters, in the new General Hospital, Rangoon, were also being built to the same officer's design. The Forest School at Pyinmana was practically completed for Rs. 1·72 lakh. School buildings at Kanyutkwin Paungdè, Yandoon, and Akyab, and hostels at Pegu, Prome, Toungoo, and Myanaung were completed. Some additions and alterations were made to jails, and work was started on a number of hospitals and dispensaries. The total expenditure on original police works amounted to Rs. 3·50 lakhs, which was chiefly absorbed by the construction of quarters and barracks in Rangoon and elsewhere.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements and Sanitary Works.

126. A sum of Rs. 75,517 was spent on reclaiming certain portions of the town of Kyaiklat by dredging and a little more than half the work was completed. Some reclamation work was carried out for the Burma Railways Company and private individuals at their own cost, but reclamation work in Rangoon Town again suffered from want of funds. The new roads in Buthidaung, the construction of which was commenced in the previous year, were practically finished and the stone masonry bridge over the Nampaw *chaung* in the town of Hsipaw was completed. Operations for the protection of the foreshore at Kindat were discontinued as it has been decided to transfer the headquarters of the Upper Chindwin District to Mawlaik. Among the more important sanitary works in progress were the water-supply to the towns of Pegu and Kalaw, the construction of large bazaars at Pegu, Pyu and Kywebwe, and improvements to the bazaar at Paungdè. A commencement was also made during the year with the scheme of improving the drainage of Akyab. Some expenditure was incurred on harbours and light-houses but marine and sanitary works are further discussed elsewhere.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways—Construction and surveys.

127. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, continued to manage the railway system of the Province. The length of open line increased from 1,544·83 to 1,551·78 miles, as the result of the opening to traffic of another 6·95 miles

on the Southern Shan States extension line. Further progress was made with this extension during the year, and a capital outlay of Rs. 34·99 lakhs was incurred. No other line was in course of construction. The projected Ta-Hapalai-Nampai Railway has been abandoned for the present. The proposal to construct a railway from Myingyan to Natogyi was under consideration during the year. A proposal that a light line should be constructed from Kyangyin to Petyè by a private person was negatived, and it was suggested that the work should be undertaken by the Burma Railways Company. In the Tenasserim Division the projects for construction of lines from Ye to Yebyu, from Ye to Three Pagodas, from Moulmein to Three Pagodas, and from Tavoy to Awya, were under consideration during the year and the survey of the line from Moulmein to Victoria Point was completed.

Interruptions and accidents.

128. A flood on the Thazi-Myingyan branch in July caused a partial derailment of a train, and slight injuries to one passenger. Elsewhere there were a number of minor breaches of the line due to floods, especially on the Mu Valley section, but in no other case was damage done to the rolling-stock, and in every case the breach was repaired after a short interval. In addition to the case already mentioned four accidents occurred which caused injuries to human beings. In one case two elephants were knocked off the line and a mahout was killed, and in another case a train ran into a bullock cart which was crossing the line, and the cartman died of the injuries he received. No other fatal accidents are recorded, but a collision occurred in January between two passenger trains in Rangoon which caused slight injuries to three Burmese passengers and three Railway servants, and a driver and his second fireman were injured as the result of a train running into a buffalo on the Tharrawaw section. There were several other minor derailments which caused damage to the rolling-stock and permanent way.

Traffic and finance.

129. The number of passengers carried on the Burma Railways rose from 26,274,760 in 1912-13 to 28,667,101 in the year of report. The gross earnings were Rs. 2,46·95 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2,24·70 lakhs in the previous year, and the gross working expenses Rs. 1,32·34 lakhs against Rs. 1,32·24 lakhs. The net profits have thus increased from Rs. 92·46 lakhs to Rs. 1,14·61 lakhs. On the main lines the earnings rose from Rs. 2,07·21 lakhs to Rs. 2,24·78 lakhs, whilst there was a decrease in expenditure by Rs. 1·76 lakhs, and the expenses amounted to only about 50 per cent. of the earnings. The percentages of expenses to gross earnings on the Pegu-Moulmein and Henzada-Kyangin extensions were 51·15 and 63·84 respectively, in each case considerably lower than in the previous year. Surplus profits were earned by the Pegu-Moulmein branch for the first time. On the portion of the Southern Shan States branch which was opened to traffic, the expenses exceeded the earnings by about Rs. 6,000.

The capital outlay on the main line during the year amounted to Rs. 38·16 lakhs, raising the total outlay from the commencement of operations to Rs. 17,48·44 lakhs. The percentage of net receipts on capital outlay rose from 5·01 to 6·05. The capital outlay on the Pegu-Moulmein extension during the year was Rs. 27,480 and on the Henzada-Kyangin branch Rs. 14,448, making the total capital outlay at the end of the year Rs. 1,54·41 lakhs in the case of the former, and Rs. 65·57 lakhs in the case of the latter. The percentages of net receipts to capital outlay on these two extensions rose from 3·98 and 1·57 to 5·64 and 2·21, respectively. The capital outlay on the first 72 miles of the Southern Shan States Railway amounted to Rs. 34·99 lakhs during the year, raising the total outlay from the commencement of operations to Rs. 1,32·96 lakhs.

Tramways.

130. The Rangoon Electric Tramways carried 11,594,113 passengers during the year, or 744,121 more than in the previous year. The running mileage increased by 39,558 miles to 1,508,699 miles, and the total receipts rose from Rs. 9·06 lakhs to Rs. 9·51 lakhs. The Burma Electric & Lighting Co., Ltd., at Mandalay carried 3,051,277 passengers with a total mileage run of 508,737

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as compared with 2,898,947 passengers, and a mileage of 505,009 in the year 1912-13. The receipts rose from Rs. 2·29 lakhs to Rs. 2·41 lakhs. Considerable progress was made during the year in the construction of the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway. Proposals were under consideration at the close of the year for the reconstruction of the capital of the Company. No further progress was made in the construction of the Madaya-Mandalay Light Railway. The Committee appointed by Government to examine into the position of affairs made its report which was under consideration at the end of the year. Eight miles of line were worked during the year.

(*iii*) *Canals.*

Navigation Canals.

131. The only canals in the Province maintained out of canal dues and used solely for navigation purposes are the Pegu-Sittang Canal in the Pegu District and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal in the Thatôn District. The length of the former open for navigation is 45½ miles, and of the latter 14 miles. Receipts from the Pegu-Sittang Canal amounted to Rs. 1·77 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·63 lakh in the previous year, whilst the total expenditure rose by Rs. ·37 lakh to Rs. 1·53 lakh. The result was a decline in the profits derived from the canal from Rs. 47,275 to Rs. 24,776. Traffic was again greatly impeded by the floating weed known as the water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes Solms*). The botanical section of the Agricultural Department have commenced a study of this weed. The weed flourishes in the Thanatpin tank, and unless some method is devised of preventing it from flowing from thence into the canal, the difficulty it causes is likely to increase. A suction dredger was at work in the canal during the year, but met with little success owing to the hardness of the silt. The large increase in expenditure is accounted for in part by the bursting of a weir in December. The breach was repaired at a cost of Rs. 23,295. Receipts from the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal fell from Rs. 6,786 to Rs. 6,323, and the expenditure from Rs. 14,016 to Rs. 12,436. The loss on the year's working was thus Rs. 6,113, an improvement of about Rs. 1,100 on the previous year's figures.

Other canals which are used wholly or partly for navigation include the Twante Canal in Lower Burma, and the Shwetachaung Canal in the Mandalay District. The Twante Canal, which forms the chief waterway for launches and cargo boats between the China Bakir branch of the Irrawaddy River and the Rangoon River is maintained solely for purposes of navigation. The total capital outlay that had been expended on the canal by the end of the year was Rs. 50·31 lakhs. The two steam launches required in connection with the dredging work were received from England during the year, and the total cost of these launches and the three dredgers amounted to Rs. 31·21 lakhs. The sum of Rs. ·86 lakh was spent during the year on the acquisition of land, Rs. 4·48 lakhs on the excavation of earthwork by dredging and Rs. ·94 lakh on marginal embankments. The cost of dredging exclusive of charges for depreciation and interest worked out at Rs. 4·95 per 1,000 cubic feet. About five miles of the canal were widened during the year. The Shwetachaung Canal, which is also an irrigation work, is used for local traffic between Mandalay and Madaya. The navigation fees obtained from the Shwetachaung Canal rose from Rs. 4,317 in the year 1912-13 to Rs. 5,560 in the year of report.

Irrigation.

Major Irrigation Works.

132. The works classed as Major Irrigation Works by the Public Works Department are four in number: the Mandalay Canal, the Shwebo Canal, the Môn Canals and the Ye-u Canal. Of these works the Ye-u Canal is still under construction.

The area irrigated by the Mandalay Canal rose from 61,557 acres to 62,967 acres. This area is the largest yet recorded, and is considerably larger than the area of 59,115 acres which was originally regarded as the total irrigable

area of the canal. The increase in irrigation is principally due to the provision of direct watercourses and outlets to irrigate strips of land along both banks of the main channels which are not commanded by any of the distributaries. Serious damage to the headworks of the canal, and breaches of the canal in several places caused by flood, rendered irrigation impossible after October; but timely showers in November helped to mature the standing crops. Total remission of revenue had to be granted on an area of 2,269 acres, and partial remission on 3,142 acres, but the total revenue collected rose slightly from Rs. 3·72 lakhs to Rs. 3·73 lakhs. The working expenses declined from Rs. 1·01 lakh to Rs. ·69 lakh, so that the net revenue increased from Rs. 2·71 lakhs to Rs. 3·04 lakhs, which represents a percentage of 5·35 on the capital outlay of Rs. 56·72 lakhs.

The area irrigated from the Shwebo Canal rose from 153,056 acres to 170,850 acres, and now exceeds the amount assumed to be the maximum irrigable area in the completion report. Receipts rose from Rs. 7·49 lakhs to Rs. 8·12 lakhs, and expenditure from Rs. 2·61 lakhs to Rs. 3·00 lakhs. The net revenue from the canal was therefore Rs. 5·12 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·88 lakhs in the previous year, and represents a percentage of 8·74 on the capital outlay of Rs. 58·54 lakhs. A reclassification of a large number of *kwins* has been found to be necessary owing to extensions and improvements of irrigation, and it is estimated that when this has been done, there will be an increase of Rs. 75,000 in revenue. The banks of some of the channels were raised during the year, but much remains to be done in this direction.

The Môn Canals irrigated an area of 54,276 acres as against 51,900 acres in 1912-13. A large part of the land that claimed initial remission from taxation in the previous year, was subject to assessment in 1913, and the revenue receipts rose from Rs. ·83 lakh to Rs. 2·98 lakhs. The working expenses on the other hand fell from Rs. 1·36 lakh to Rs. 1·26 lakh and a deficit of Rs. ·52 lakh in the previous year was converted into a profit of Rs. 1·72 lakh in the year of report. This sum represents a percentage of 3·15 on the capital outlay which amounted at the end of the year to Rs. 54·64 lakhs.

The Ye-u Canal was still under construction at the end of the year, and therefore produced no revenue beyond the sums recovered as house rent from officers and subordinates engaged on its construction. The rates offered were found sufficient to attract labour for the earthwork during the year, and good progress was made. The capital outlay at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 21·36 lakhs against an estimated cost of construction of Rs. 50·55 lakhs.

Minor Irrigation Works.

133. The year was a bad one for irrigation works, such as the tanks situated in the Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts, which depend on local drainage. The middle rains failed and the rain which fell during the latter part of the year was too late to be of any use. The result was that the total area irrigated by minor irrigation works in Upper Burma fell from 331,487 acres to 289,392 acres, and the total revenue receipts from Rs. 12·67 lakhs to Rs. 11·80 lakhs. In its effect on the working expenses however the season was favourable, and the expenses declined from Rs. 7·77 lakhs to Rs. 6·68 lakhs. The net revenue realized during the year therefore amounted to Rs. 5·12 lakhs, a sum slightly in excess of the figure for the previous year. The irrigation works which suffered most from climatic conditions during the year were those in the Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts. In the Meiktila District, the areas irrigated by the Meiktila Lake and the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank declined from 45,938 and 23,773 acres respectively to 23,055 and 10,313 acres, whilst minor irrigation works in the District served only 16,879 acres as compared with 25,373 acres in the previous year. Owing to scarcity of water and the necessity of maintaining the level of the lake for sanitary reasons, no water for irrigation could be given from the Meiktila Lake till late in the year, and there was no water in the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank between August and October. The minor irrigation works also suffered from want of rain, with the exception of two tanks in the north of the District. Similar reasons affected the irrigation works in the Yamèthin District where the irrigated area fell from

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20,756 to 11,611 acres. The Mandalay District also suffered to a lesser extent but for a different reason. Heavy floods in October did considerable damage to crops, and were instrumental in reducing the area irrigated by the Shwetachaung Canal from 17,229 to 15,756 acres. In the Shwebo District the Mu Canal profited by good and timely rainfall, and irrigation from the canal served 10,483 acres as compared with 2,152 acres in the previous year. The year was a successful one for the Kyauksè District, where the areas irrigated from the canals taking off from the Zawgyi and Panlaung Rivers rose from 147,177 to 149,752 acres. Irrigation in the Minbu District also prospered, and the areas watered by the Man and Salin Canals rose respectively from 15,949 and 23,338 acres to 16,229 and 27,715 acres. Of the total net revenue accruing from the Minor Irrigation Works the Kyauksè District accounts for Rs. 4·75 lakhs. The irrigation works in the Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts on the other hand showed deficits of Rs. ·37 lakh and Rs. 1·03 lakh respectively. The remodelling of the Nga-O-Thindee distributary in the Kyauksè District was completed in March 1914 at a cost of Rs. 63,758. The sum of Rs. 34,915 was spent during the year on the construction of a weir and head regulator for the Wetmasut *chaung* in the Yamèthin District, and the total expenditure on irrigation in this District amounted to Rs. 1·36 lakh. The sum of Rs. 27,518 was spent on the Shwetchaung, but in most places expenditure on repairs was light owing to the absence of floods.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1914.

Administration Report of the Irrigation Department, Burma, for the year 1913-14.

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Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Burma during the year ended the 31st March 1914.

Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma during the year 1913.

Report on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma during the three years ended the 31st March 1914.

Report on the working of the Income-tax Act, II of 1886, in Burma for the triennium 1911-12 to 1913-14.

Report on the Forest Administration of Burma for the year 1913-14.

Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1913-14.

Report on the Reclamation of Rangoon Town Lands for the year 1913-14.

Resolution reviewing the Reports on the working of Municipalities in Burma during the year 1913-14.

Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.

Statistics of British India, Parts IV(*a*), IV(*b*), and VIII.

Provincial Settlement.

134. The receipts and expenditure of the Province other than those pertaining to Local authorities are divided between the Imperial and Provincial Governments according to the terms of what is known as the Provincial Settlement. The existing Provincial Settlement was drawn up in 1907, but its terms were subsequently modified in 1911, with a view to converting large fixed assignments which the Province then received from Imperial Revenues into shares of growing revenue. The modifications were summarized in the General Administration Report of Burma for the year 1911-12, while the Provincial Settlement of 1907 itself will be found fully described in the General Administration Report for the year 1907-08. The net contribution from Imperial to Provincial Funds in the year 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 35·54 lakhs as compared with Rs. 98·29 lakhs in the previous year. In addition to the fixed annual assignment of Rs. 12·90 lakhs, the principal contributions were Rs. 9·12 lakhs in connection with the North-Eastern Frontier Expedition, Rs. 6·07 lakhs for educational purposes, and Rs. 3 lakhs for expenditure on sanitation.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

135. The gross receipts of the Province for the year of report amounted to Rs. 12,96·03 lakhs as compared with Rs. 12,34·04 lakhs in the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 9,00·95 lakhs as against Rs. 8,53·68 lakhs. Receipts classed as Imperial increased by Rs. 68·53 lakhs to Rs. 4,42·67 lakhs, whilst receipts classed as Provincial declined by Rs. 46·87 lakhs to Rs. 5,61·45 lakhs. Receipts of District Funds rose from Rs. 37·14 lakhs to Rs. 42·99 lakhs, and those of Municipal Funds declined from Rs. 1,10·42 lakhs to Rs. 1,04·12 lakhs. Expenditure under the head Imperial shows a decrease by Rs. 7·77 lakhs to Rs. 69·61 lakhs. Expenditure under all other heads increased. The Provincial expenditure was Rs. 5,52·31 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5,19·58 lakhs, and expenditure from District Funds Rs. 37·53 lakhs as against Rs. 33·50 lakhs whilst expenditure from Municipal Funds rose from Rs. 1,06·40 lakhs to

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Rs. 1,11·69 lakhs. The receipts and expenditure of other funds were Rs. 1,44·79 lakhs and Rs. 1,29·82 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,04·02 lakhs and Rs. 1,16·83 lakhs in the previous year.

These figures include the transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust, and the Rangoon Pilot Fund, although they do not bank with Government.

(*a*) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

[*In this section are discussed sources of Revenue or Expenditure which are partly, as well as those which are wholly, Imperial.*]

Total Imperial figures: notable variations.

136. Gross increases in Imperial Receipts, were practically confined to seven heads and amounted to Rs. 73·57 lakhs. A decrease, almost entirely under two heads, of Rs. 5·04 lakhs reduced these figures to a net increase of Rs. 68·53 lakhs. The principal increase occurred under the head Land Revenue and amounted to Rs. 66·83 lakhs. A decline in the net contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds from Rs. 98·29 lakhs to Rs. 35·54 lakhs accounted for the main part of this increase, the balance being due to an increase in the total Land Revenue Receipts. Other increases of over one lakh in Imperial Receipts were under Salt, Rs. 1·06 lakh; Excise, Rs. 1·13 lakh; Assessed taxes, Rs. 1·56 lakh; and Irrigation Major Works, Rs. 2·40 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 2·40 lakhs under the last named head is accounted for by the extension of irrigation and the collection of outstandings in the Môn Canal. The chief decrease was that of Rs. 4·72 lakhs under the head Customs. Opium accounted for a decrease of Rs. 20,000.

Land Revenue.

Land Revenue Receipts.

137. Under the Provincial Settlement of 1907 as modified in 1911, Imperial Funds are credited with three-eighths of the receipts classified under 'Land Revenue' and Provincial Funds with five-eighths. The gross receipts under Land Revenue for the financial year ending on the 31st March 1914 were Rs. 4,65·26 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4,53·42 lakhs in the previous year. The net Imperial contributions to Provincial Revenues amounted to Rs. 35·54 lakhs as compared with Rs. 98·29 lakhs. After allowing for this, and excluding the portion of Land Revenue due to Irrigation, the sum of Rs. 1,36·75 lakhs was credited to Imperial, and Rs. 3,26·33 lakhs to Provincial. Expenditure under Land Revenue, which is wholly debitable to Provincial rose from Rs. 69·84 lakhs to Rs. 70·07 lakhs. Land Revenue proper, under the head of which collections for the year amounted to Rs. 2,87·41 lakhs or about Rs. 7½ lakhs more than in the previous year, is discussed in Chapter II of this Report. The head Land Revenue also includes several minor heads. The collections of capitation-tax in Lower Burma amounted to Rs. 57·06 lakhs as compared with Rs. 55·28 lakhs in 1912-13. The number of persons assessed increased by 50,525, and the amount of tax remitted was considerably smaller than in the previous year. There were practically no outstandings at the end of the year. The figures indicate that, apart from a normal increase due to growth in population, a succession of good years in Lower Burma has led to fewer attempts to evade the assessment and payment of the tax. Every District except Northern Arakan contributed to the increase in the number of persons assessed, Akyab, the Delta Districts, and Toungoo being the most prominent. Collections of land-rate in lieu of capitation-tax rose from Rs. 86,703 to Rs. 87,589. The number of households assessed to *thathameda* in Upper Burma rose by 18,041. The work of collection was free from serious difficulty, but the amount remitted was rather larger than in previous years. The total collections amounted to Rs. 38·70 lakhs or rather over a lakh more than in 1912-13. Every District showed some increase in the number of houses assessed, Yamèthin leading the way with an increase of Rs. 3,600. Some improvement is reported

in the manner in which the tax was assessed and the demand distributed amongst households. Receipts under fishery revenue amounted to Rs. 33·51 lakhs as compared with Rs. 30·77 lakhs in 1912-13. The demand showed an increase of Rs. 36,238 under net licenses and of Rs. 2·44 lakhs under leased fisheries. Remissions decreased by Rs. 7,314 but there was an increase of Rs. 2,712 in the amount outstanding at the close of the year. The Delta Division which contributes about half of the total fishery revenue of the Province showed an increase in collections of over 10 per cent. Elsewhere, with a few exceptions there was an increase in every District. Collections of 'Miscellaneous land revenue' amounted to Rs. 41·12 lakhs an increase of Rs. 40,030 on the previous year's total. Of sub-heads under this main head Rents of Town Lands not credited to Local Funds accounted for Rs. 2·31 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·27 lakhs. Fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber amounted to Rs. 33·51 lakhs, and on "other minerals" to Rs. 2·25 lakh, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 33·17 lakhs and Rs. 1·85 lakh respectively. Petroleum revenue in the Magwe District alone increased by Rs. 1·18 lakh. Receipts under the Village Act, and survey fees for *pottas* show decreases and receipts of 'Other miscellaneous land revenue' show an increase.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

138. The concluding paragraphs of Chapter IV deal with the canals and irrigation works of the Province and the revenue obtained from them during the year of report. Receipts and expenditure on Major Irrigation Works—including the works now in progress on the Twante Canal which is only used for Navigation—are wholly Imperial. Those of the other works referred to in the paragraphs above mentioned are wholly Provincial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

139. Both receipts and expenditure under the head Customs are classified as Imperial. Receipts under this head do not include the import duty on salt which is classed under the head Salt. The total collections for the year under the head Customs amounted to Rs. 1,86·43 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,91·15 lakhs in the year 1912-13, showing a decrease of Rs. 4·72 lakhs. Whilst receipts from exports fell by Rs. 14·02 lakhs, those from imports rose by Rs. 10·61 lakhs. The reasons for these variations are discussed in the paragraphs of this Report dealing with trade. The expenditure on Customs declined from Rs. 6·62 lakhs to Rs. 6·45 lakhs. The net revenue for the year was therefore Rs. 1,79·98 lakhs. The bulk of the Customs revenue of the Province was as usual realised at Rangoon. The net revenue realised at subordinate ports, including the duty on salt, fell by Rs. 2·77 lakhs, and amounted to Rs. 30·85 lakhs only. Customs.

140. Under the Imperial Accounts head Opium in Burma there is no expenditure, and receipts include only the payments made by the Government of Burma to the Government of Bengal for the purchase of opium. All other receipts and expenditure in connection with opium are included under the head 'Excise' which will be discussed later. The decreasing demand for opium in the country led to a decline in the amount purchased from Bengal in the year of report and to a fall in the receipts under the head Opium from Rs. 3·99 lakhs to Rs. 3·79 lakhs. Opium.

141. Revenue and expenditure under the head "Salt" are wholly Imperial, but since 1912 the salt establishment has been amalgamated with the permanent excise establishment which is partly Provincial and partly Imperial. In order to adjust matters between Imperial and Provincial heads of expenditure, the Government of India have therefore decided that $3\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. of the total expenditure on the conjoint Salt and Excise establishments, excluding certain charges Salt—General.

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on account of superintendence, should be transferred to the Imperial head "Salt." The total cost of the salt establishment during the year was Rs. 44,947 as compared with Rs. 36,273 in 1912. No change was made during the year in the law affecting salt or in the methods of the collection of duty. Duty is still collected direct on the actual output in seven Districts, and assessed by means of a composition duty elsewhere. A proposal to revert to the composition duty system in the Amherst District was negatived after full consideration.

Supplies of Salt.

142. The total output of salt in the Province amounted to 819,636 maunds as compared with 839,653 maunds in 1912. Although these figures show a decline from the previous year, the output for 1913 was about a lakh of maunds greater than in 1911. The output in the Districts under the system of direct taxation has fallen from 776,388 maunds in 1912 to 773,750 maunds in 1913. There was a largely increased output in the Amherst District which was more than counterbalanced by falls in the Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Myaungmya Districts. The largest fall is reported from Kyaukpyu and is ascribed to the greater attraction of agriculture in a favourable season. A marked feature of the year's working is the large decline in the number of licenses issued under both systems of assessment, the total for the Province falling from 1,343 to 1,166. The quantity of salt issued from bond rose very considerably in anticipation of the increased rate of duty which came into force on the 1st January 1914. As a result Burma-made salt supplied 32 per cent., or nearly one-third of the estimated consumption of salt in the Province, as compared with two-sevenths in 1912. In 19 of the 44 areas in which salt manufacture is permitted under the direct duty system notice was given that licenses would not be issued after the end of 1916. It is hoped that the consequent concentration of manufacture will make more effective supervision possible. Imports of foreign salt increased by nearly 4 per cent. from 1,740,166 maunds in 1912 to 1,808,036 maunds in 1913, and the amount of duty realized rose from Rs. 16,87,024 to Rs. 17,02,247. Imports from the United Kingdom increased from 241,310 to 360,424 maunds, whilst imports from Germany decreased from 713,249 to 706,540 maunds, and from Aden from 402,795 to 159,931 maunds. The quantity of foreign salt in bond at the end of the year was 273,861 maunds as compared with 204,736 maunds at the end of 1912. The large clearances from bond to avoid the enhanced duty were instrumental in raising the duty realized from locally manufactured salt from Rs. 4·13 lakhs to Rs. 4·94 lakhs, which is higher than the figure recorded for any previous year. An increase in imports of salted fish from 166,187 maunds to 188,641 maunds is attributed to an unsuccessful fishery season in the Province. The total revenue derived from salt and salt fish was Rs. 22·64 lakhs compared with Rs. 21·61 lakhs in 1912.

Excise—General.

143. The gross receipts for the year from excise amounted to Rs. 87,17,105 as compared with Rs. 85,12,089 in the previous year. A decrease of Rs. 2·05 under the head "Opium" was more than set off by an increase of Rs. 3,57,334 under liquor. The total expenditure on the conjoint Excise and Salt establishments, excluding superintendence, amounted to Rs. 15,52,619 of which $3\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. is debitable to the Imperial head "Salt." As the year of report is the first full year since the reorganization of the conjoint Excise and Salt Department, comparison with the figures of previous years is possible only to a limited extent. In 1912-13 the establishment was below full strength, and there was therefore a rise in the year of report of Rs. 60,550 on establishment charges. A re-arrangement of excise charges was made during the year by the addition of the Thayetmyo District to the charge of the Excise Superintendent, Magwe-Minbu, and the appointment of separate Superintendents for each of the Tavoy and Mergui Districts.

Excise—Opium.

144. The total opium revenue fell from Rs. 41·22 lakhs to Rs. 39·17 lakhs. Fines and confiscations are excluded from these figures, and a fall of a little over a lakh under opium duty and license fees in the Rangoon Town District is partly offset by a rise of nearly half a lakh under the head of fines, confiscations and

miscellaneous. Opium revenue fell in 27 Districts. Adjustment of the profits of licensees by altering issue prices led to a fall in license fees from Rs. 1·17 lakh to Rs. 1·05 lakh and decreased demand was responsible for a decline in duty on opium by Rs. 1·93 lakh to Rs. 38·12 lakhs. Issues of "foreign" opium have been discontinued, and the total quantity of opium, both excise and confiscated, issued to shops, fell from 47,696 seers in 1912-13 to 46,251 seers in 1913-14. Issues in Rangoon fell by 503 seers and in many other Districts steady progress was made in reducing consumption. There was a further fall in the number of registered Burman consumers from 11,080 to 10,099. These figures suggest that the taste for opium is decreasing in the greater part of the Province. To what extent opium is being replaced by cocaine and morphia is uncertain, but the consensus of opinion amongst District officers appears to be that the drug habit amongst Burmans is decreasing. Consumption of opium is declining in some Districts where the use of other deleterious drugs is unknown. The contraband trade in opium however is still a serious problem. Three thousand four hundred and fifty-three arrests under the Opium Act were made during the year resulting in 2,841 convictions. In 1912-13 there were 2,959 arrests and 2,481 convictions. The percentage of convictions to arrests has fallen from 83·8 to 82·28. Seizures of contraband opium in Lower Burma rose from 1,139 seers to 1,823 seers, and in Upper Burma from 384 seers to 585 seers. Smuggled opium comes into the Province through Rangoon, through the Akyab District from Chittagong, and into the Northern Districts mainly from the Shan States. But Rangoon is by far the most important centre, and the seizures in Rangoon during the year rose from 793 seers to 1,360 seers. Prices of illicit opium, as far as they could be ascertained, changed little, and there is reason to hope that these figures indicate increased activity on the part of the Excise Staff rather than any marked increase in the volume of contraband opium.

Excise—Liquors.

145. The total imports of spirit into Burma from foreign countries during the year amounted to 290,203 gallons, or 26,270 gallons more than in the previous year. Whisky increased by nearly 13 per cent., brandy by nearly 9 per cent., and gin by 25 per cent. Imports of ale, beer and porter also increased from 1,227,397 gallons to 1,348,699 gallons. The Provincial statements show an increase in the number of wholesale licenses for the sale of foreign liquors from 51 to 88, and a decrease in retail licenses from 172 to 138. But the changes indicated by these figures are apparent only, and due to a difference in classification. License fees for the sale of imported liquors realized Rs. 9·30 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·76 lakhs in the previous year. Large decreases, amounting altogether to nearly a lakh, in Rangoon Town and the Amherst District, are suspected to be due to combinations or agreements among rival sections of the Chinese community. Issues of beer manufactured at the Mandalay Brewery fell from 241,449 gallons to 203,519 gallons, a result mainly due to the fact that a newly arrived British regiment did not contract with the brewery for their supplies. Foreign spirit was manufactured at the Mandalay, Moulmein, and Toungoo distilleries. The decrease in total issues was small, but as in the case of malt liquor, foreign spirit manufactured in Burma fails to achieve popular favour. License fees for foreign beer manufactured locally fell from Rs. 20,961 to Rs. 18,414, and for foreign spirits similarly manufactured from Rs. 23,050 to Rs. 22,461. The contract distillery system for the manufacture and sale of country spirit was further extended in the year of report, and has now entirely replaced the outstill system in the Arakan Division. In the whole Province the number of outstills has been reduced from 23 to 12, and this unsatisfactory system of regulating the consumption of country spirits is now confined to outlying parts of five Districts in the Pegu and Tenasserim Divisions. The country spirit licenses also replaced country beer licenses in thirteen cases, of which eleven were in the Bassein and Henzada Townships. In Henzada the closing of the country beer shops resulted in illicit practices, thus indicating the necessity for caution in any further extension of the contract distillery system. Issues of country spirits in contract distillery areas rose from 57,391 to 95,877 London proof gallons. A striking increase of 9,763 proof gallons occurred in the Thatôn District where

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the number of sanctioned shops remained unchanged. License fees for country distillery spirit amounted to Rs. 2·27 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 1·10 lakh in the previous year. The total number of *tari** licenses remained the same as last year, 712, and there does not seem to be much room for further substantial reductions without causing illicit practice with no diminution in the amount drunk. Licenses for country fermented liquor other than *tari* fell by 9 to 377. A large number of samples of country beer were tested during the year, and the liquor was found to have been fortified in one case only, whilst no case of adulteration was discovered. Fees realized from *tari* licenses rose by Rs. 87,863 to Rs. 8,09,793. There was a rise of Rs. 37,770 in Rangoon, and a general proportional rise in all but one of the Upper Burma *tari* producing Districts. License fees for other country fermented liquors rose by Rs. 1,32,885 to Rs. 20,50,552. The total revenue from all excisable liquors rose from Rs. 42·84 lakhs to Rs. 46·41 lakhs.

The number of arrests and convictions for offences relating to country spirits were 1,573 and 1,275 respectively as compared with 1,976 and 1,633 in the previous year. Convictions in respect to country fermented liquor on the other hand show a slight rise from 2,988 to 3,043.

Ganja, Cocaine, and Morphia.

146. Seizures of *ganja* amounted to 1,411 seers, as compared with the 1,912 seers reported to be seized in the previous year. But the decrease is only apparent, as last year's figure erroneously included seizures of the hemp plant in the Tharrawaddy District. There was actually an increase of some 200 seers in the amount seized. Illicit consumption is still entirely confined to the immigrant Indian population.

The cocaine habit is not believed to have spread to any new District in the year of report, but it has a footing in 17 Districts, and has become a serious evil in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions. In these two Divisions the use of the drug appears to be increasing rather than decreasing, and is not confined to any one class. The quantity of cocaine seized rose from 2,740 ounces to 3,573 ounces, and the number of convictions from 1,077 to 1,448. Half of the convictions occurred in Rangoon Town. Cocaine licenses fell by 1 to 39. Seizures of morphia amounted to 277 ounces. Of 515 convictions for offences connected with this drug, 425 were in Rangoon Town and 66 in the Henzada District. The morphia habit is practically confined to the Pegu Division and the Henzada District, and is not believed to be generally spreading. Outside Rangoon it is mainly indulged in by the dregs of the population.

Stamps.

147. The gross receipts under the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act were slightly more than in the previous year, but below the receipts for 1911-12. The total under the two Acts came to Rs. 36,19,645 in 1913-14 compared with Rs. 36,07,299 in 1912-13. A slight fall under the Court-fees Act is more than made up for by an increase under the Stamp Act. It is somewhat remarkable that, in a year when there was so large a falling off in litigation, the decrease of stamp duty realised under the Court-fees Act should only amount to the almost negligible figure of Rs. 13,142. But in instituting comparisons it has to be borne in mind that the judicial reports are for the calendar year, whilst the statements of fees received under the Act are compiled for the financial year. The figures in the judicial reports may be expected therefore in part to reflect the large decrease of one and a half lakhs in Court-fees commented on in last year's Report. Realizations in Rangoon under the Act were about Rs. 13,000 less than in 1912-13, the most noticeable decreases elsewhere occurring in the Toungoo, Magwe and Shwebo Districts. On the other hand, in several Districts both in Upper and in Lower Burma there were distinct increases. Monetary depression still seems to have had some effect in Rangoon where the receipts under the Stamp Act fell from Rs. 8·94 lakhs to Rs. 8·50 lakhs. Last year's high figures under this Act for Shwebo and Magwe were not maintained, but most Districts in Lower Burma show an increase, and the total receipts were about Rs. 25,000

* *Tari*, the fermented sap of the toddy palm (*Borassus flabelliformis.*)

higher than in 1912-13. The number of licensed stamp-vendors fell from 2,433 to 2,407. New licenses were issued in large numbers to headmen in central villages in the new Insein District, but unused licenses in still larger numbers were withdrawn in Pegu and elsewhere. Courts dealt with 994 cases in which documents were unstamped or insufficiently stamped, as compared with 959 in the previous year, and Rs. 10,353 was realized as duty or penalty as compared with Rs. 11,067. The number of such cases dealt with by Collectors fell from 651 to 476, but the sums realized by them rose from Rs. 38,783 to Rs. 42,684. The number of prosecutions instituted fell from 62 to 46. The high percentage of acquittals however suggests that Collectors still fail to exercise adequate control over the institution of these prosecutions. The number of cases in which enquiries were instituted as to valuations made in connection with applications for probate or letters of administration rose from 419 to 423, and the amount of deficit Court-fees required from Rs. 1,879 to Rs. 3,321.

Charges on account of discount and establishment for the sale of stamps rose from Rs. 61,019 to Rs. 63,517.

148. Receipts and expenditure under the head assessed taxes are credited and debited respectively in equal shares to Imperial and Provincial Funds. The Income-tax Act is applicable to the whole of Burma, but was completely operative only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay Town. No change was made during the year in the restrictions on the application of the Act to the rest of Upper Burma. In the Shan States the Act is enforced in the cases of Government servants and Railway employees only. The only change made in the Act during the year was the insertion of a new section by the Decentralization Act of 1914, which empowers the Local Government to delegate to the Financial Commissioner its power to make rules under certain sections. The net yield of the tax for the year 1913-14 amounted to Rs. 22·84 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 3·15 lakhs over the figures for the previous year. The greater part of this increase was contributed from Rangoon Town where collections rose from Rs. 10·19 lakhs to Rs. 12·76 lakhs. The large increase in collection of the tax in Rangoon on profits of Companies from Rs. 2·88 lakhs in the year 1912-13 to Rs. 4·71 lakhs in the year of report indicates a satisfactory recovery from the financial depression of the former year. Elsewhere the increase in total yield was fairly evenly distributed throughout the Province, the largest total as well as the largest increase being reported from the Amherst District. The only noticeable decrease recorded is one of nearly Rs. 4,000 in the Bassein District. Assessed Taxes.

The number of Government servants assessed to income-tax rose from 5,281 to 5,446 and the amount of the tax paid by them from Rs. 3·83 lakhs to Rs. 3·89 lakhs. The tax on salaries, pensions, annuities and gratuities by Local authorities fell slightly, chiefly on account of a decrease of 43 in the number of assessees amongst the employees of the Rangoon Municipality and the Rangoon Port Commissioners. The taxes on salaries paid by private employees collected direct under section 9 (*1*) of the Act rose from Rs. ·94 lakh to Rs. 1·03 lakh, and collected under section 9 (*2*) through the agency of the employers from Rs. 2·44 lakhs to Rs. 2·63 lakhs. Taxes collected under the latter sub-section in Rangoon Town increased from Rs. 2·27 lakhs to Rs. 2·46 lakhs, and the number of assessees from 2,953 to 3,414. Elsewhere no very noticeable changes under this sub-section occurred. In the Tavoy District where the number of assessees from whom the tax was levied direct was 159 in 1913-14 as compared with 132 in 1912-13, and 11 only in 1911-12, there are still no collections made through employers. The tax on profits of companies for the whole Province rose from Rs. 2·96 lakhs to Rs. 4·78 lakhs all but a few thousands of which come from Rangoon. Comment has already been made on the large increase under this head in Rangoon. Under other sources of income the number of assessees rose by 1,112 to 14,818 and the tax collected amounted to Rs. 9·67 lakhs as compared with Rs. 8·67 lakhs in the previous year. In 1912 the attention of Collectors was directed to the necessity of watching assessments carefully, and the increase in value may be due in part to this cause, but the general growth in prosperity throughout Lower Burma is probably a more important factor in the increase.

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The increase is distributed fairly evenly amongst the various Districts in which the tax is in force. The number of assessees who petitioned the Collector for reduction of assessment in 1913-14 amounted to 19 per cent. of all the assessees as compared with 18½ per cent. in the previous year. Reductions made by the Collector and Commissioners amounted to 8·3 per cent. of the original demand as against 8·8 in 1912-13. The percentage of reduction has decreased consistently since 1908-09 when it was 10·4. The sum outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 43,350 as compared with Rs. 11,922 in the previous year. The greater part of this large increase is reported from Rangoon where outstandings have risen from Rs. 9,967 to Rs. 33,816. This increase is not explained but may be due in part to the large increase in assessment. The only other Districts which return abnormally large increases are Tavoy and Mergui.

The expenditure incurred in the assessment and collection of Income-tax during the year amounted to Rs. 51,780 as compared with Rs. 49,981 in the year 1912-13. The percentage of expenditure to total collections was 2·27, showing a considerable improvement on the previous year's figure of 3·16. A percentage of 14 reported from Mandalay was unduly high, and enquiry is being made as to the possibility of reducing the cost of the staff in that District.

(*b*) *REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.*

Provincial Receipts and Expenditure.

Provincial Receipts.

149. The Provincial receipts in the year 1913-14 were Rs. 5,61·45 lakhs or Rs. 46·87 lakhs less than in the previous year. Decreases under some heads which amounted to Rs. 57·11 lakhs were partly set off by increases under other heads of Rs. 10·24 lakhs. Almost the whole of the gross decrease occurred under the head Land Revenue which accounted for Rs. 55·35 lakhs. If this head were left out of account an increase of Rs. 8·48 lakhs would be shown. It has already been noted that the total receipts under the head Land Revenue were considerably higher than in the previous year. The decrease in the share assigned to Provincial is therefore entirely due to the large decline in the contributions from Imperial to Provincial Funds. The other heads under which Provincial receipts suffer most as compared with the previous year are Police, Miscellaneous, and Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation, but under none of these heads does the decrease amount to a lakh. Of the heads which returned increases Forests leads the way with Rs. 5·64 lakhs, whilst Assessed Taxes and Excise accounted for Rs. 1·56 lakh and Rs. 1·13 lakh respectively. Smaller increases occurred under the heads Registration, Law and Justice—Courts of Law and Jails, Ports and Pilotage, Education, and Civil Works.

Land Revenue as usual provided by far the greatest share of the total Provincial receipts with Rs. 3,26·33 lakhs (including the Imperial contribution of Rs. 35·54 lakhs), the other principal contributions consisting of Rs. 1,15·72 lakhs from Forests, Rs. 41·71 lakhs from Excise, Rs. 18·10 lakhs from Stamps, and Rs. 13·69 lakhs from Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation.

Provincial Expenditure.

150. Provincial expenditure increased by Rs. 32·74 lakhs to Rs. 5,52·31 lakhs in the year of report. The majority of the heads of expenditure returned increases, which amounted in all to Rs. 37·02 lakhs, whilst decreases under the remaining heads reached a total of Rs. 4·28 lakhs. An increase of Rs. 18·55 lakhs under the head Civil Works is chiefly due to the incurring of large expenditure out of the special Imperial Grants for the purposes of education, sanitation and medical relief and for the improvement of communications in the Province. Expenditure out of the Imperial Grants is also in large measure responsible for an increase of Rs. 5·79 lakhs under the head Education. Operations on the North-East Frontier in connection with the formation of the new Putao District accounted for an increased expenditure of Rs. 4·19 lakhs under the head "Political." The other principal increases were Rs. 2·66 lakhs under Law and Justice—Jails, Rs. 1·94 lakh under Police, and Rs. 1·18 lakh under Forests. The increase under "Jails" is largely

accounted for by the fact that favourable prices towards the close of the year 1913-14 led to heavy purchases of paddy for consumption in the year 1914-15. The principal savings as compared with the previous year consisted of Rs. 1·90 lakh under Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation, Rs. 1·21 lakh under Medical, and Rs. 1·03 lakh under Stationery and Printing.

The heaviest item of expenditure was again under the head Police which accounted for Rs. 1,31·18 lakhs. Expenditure on Civil Works (Public Works Department) amounted to Rs. 92·81 lakhs. Other important items were Rs. 70·06 lakhs under the head Land Revenue, Rs. 48·82 lakhs under Law and Justice—Courts of Law, Rs. 29·24 lakhs under Education, and Rs. 20·70 lakhs under Medical.

Forests.

151. The Forest Department Report deals with the year ending on the 30th June 1914 and the figures of revenue and expenditure given in it therefore differ from those compiled in the Financial Department. The gross revenue of the Forest Department for the year ending June 1914 amounted to Rs. 1,14·09 lakhs against Rs. 1,15·76 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease is due to the postponement of the payment of instalments due on the sale of the lease of the Government Rubber Plantation at Mergui. The figures for the previous year included a sum of Rs. 6·83 lakhs on this account, the greater part of which sum is counted amongst the receipts for the financial year of report. The revenue from timber again shows a satisfactory increase. The expenditure during the year rose from Rs. 40·47 lakhs in 1912-13 to Rs. 45·17 lakhs. An increase of Rs. 4·40 lakhs under conservancy and works, due to larger expenditure on extraction of timber by Government agency, on purchase of elephants, and on communications and buildings, and to the compensation paid to cultivators excluded from the Paunglaung Elephant Grazing Reserve (Rs. 1,10,036) not being recovered from the lessees at the close of the year. The net revenue was Rs. 68·93 lakhs or less by Rs. 6·37 lakhs than in the previous year, and the percentage of net to gross revenue fell during the year from 65 to 60.

Local Funds.

District Cess Funds.

152. A District Cess Fund is maintained by each District in Lower Burma. No change occurred in the number of such funds during the year. The total receipts of all the funds during the year amounted to Rs. 32·99 lakhs as compared with Rs. 30·97 lakhs in the previous year. The principal source of revenue is the income derived from a 10 per cent. cess on land revenue, and receipts from this source during the year amounted to Rs. 23·37 lakhs. Next in order comes the head "Miscellaneous" which accounted for Rs. 4·20 lakhs. Under this head are included bazaar rents, and contributions from Municipal and Local Funds. "Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers" includes such items as "Ferry receipts" and contributions from Provincial Revenues for works of public utility and amounted to Rs. 2·51 lakhs in the year of report. "Slaughter-house license fees" and "Sale-proceeds of unclaimed cattle" are included in the head "Police" which produced an income of Rs. 1·81 lakh. The total receipts for the year exceeded those for the previous year by Rs. 2·02 lakhs. Collections of District Cess naturally increased with the improvement in receipts under Land Revenue, and contributed Rs. 64,813 of the total increase. Other noticeable increases were those of Rs. 55,755 under the head *Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers*, Rs. 50,279 under *Education*, and Rs 44,129 under *Police*. Education profited during the year by a considerable increase in the amount of contributions received from Provincial Revenues. The only important decrease is recorded under the head *Miscellaneous* in contributions from Municipal and Local Funds. The total expenditure incurred by the District Cess Funds amounted to Rs. 29·81 lakhs as compared with Rs 26·45 lakhs in the previous year. The principal items of expenditure were Rs. 15·02 lakhs under the head *Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers*, Rs. 5·89 lakhs under the head *Education*, Rs. 3·50 lakhs under *Medical*, Rs. 1·61 lakh under *Miscellaneous*, and Rs. 1·44

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lakh under *Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers*. The net increase in total expenditure was Rs. 3·36 lakhs. Towards this total the head *Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers* contributed Rs. 2·52 lakhs, an increase which was distributed amongst ten Districts. The sums spent under this head vary from year to year according to the funds available for expenditure, and the ability of the officers to carry out the programme of works. The only other large increase in expenditure occurred under the head *Education* and amounted to Rs. 1·16 lakh. Of the heads which returned a lower expenditure than in the previous year, *Miscellaneous* is the most prominent, with a considerable decline in the amount of contributions paid to Municipal and Local Funds. The Sandoway District Cess Fund temporarily overdrew the balance at its credit during the year, but this overdraft was subsequently made good, and each of the District Cess Funds closed the year with a credit balance.

District Funds.

153. Each District in Upper Burma maintains a District Fund. District Funds are endowed with no cess on land revenue collections, but depend for their maintenance on miscellaneous sources of income such as bazaar rents, slaughter-house licenses, ferries, and contributions from Provincial Funds. It follows that their receipts are much lower than those of District Cess Funds. The total receipts of District Funds during the year amounted to Rs. 10·00 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6·17 lakhs in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 3·83 lakhs. The payment of larger contributions from Provincial Funds towards works of public utility accounted for the greater part of this increase. The expenditure incurred by District Funds rose from Rs. 7·04 lakhs to Rs. 7·71 lakhs. The great bulk of this expenditure was incurred on Civil Works which cost Rs. 6·31 lakhs during the year. The Public Works Department carried out 73·2 per cent. of these works. The funds opened with a balance of Rs. 3·09 lakhs which had risen to Rs. 5·38 lakhs by the end of the year. The Bhamo, Myitkyina and Magwe District Funds which closed with a deficit balance on the 31st March 1913, made good these deficits during the year, and all the funds were solvent on the 31st March 1914.

Other Funds.

154. Other local funds consist of the Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Educational Syndicate, Rangoon Police Reward, and Steam-Boiler Inspection Funds. The number of Cantonment Funds was seven as in the previous year. The aggregate opening balance of these seven funds was Rs. 1·14 lakh. The total receipts, excluding debt accounts and Government loan, amounted to Rs. 2·31 lakhs, and the total expenditure to Rs. 2·47 lakhs. The figures of the previous year were exceeded in receipts by Rs. 9,196 and in expenditure by Rs. 74,886. The Rangoon Fund also received a loan of Rs. 50,000 from Government during the year for the purpose of acquiring Boyiguda Bazaar, so that the total closing balance for all the funds was Rs. 31,379 in excess of the opening balance. Expenditure exceeded receipts in Mandalay which, however, had a closing balance of Rs. 45,605, and in Thayetmyo, where the balance fell from Rs. 1,432 at the beginning to Rs. 492 at the end of the year. In every other fund receipts exceeded expenditure, and each fund had a credit balance at the close of the year.

The creation of a Town Fund at Kalaw raised the number of Town Funds from 18 to 19 during the year. Excluding the income and expenditure at Kalaw, the total income and expenditure of Town Funds amounted to Rs. 8·07 lakhs and Rs. 7·50 lakhs respectively as compared with Rs. 5·97 lakhs and Rs. 5·21 lakhs in the previous year. The Maymyo Town Fund was chiefly responsible for the large increases both in receipts and expenditure. This fund received a contribution of Rs. 1·46 lakh from Government for general purposes, and spent Rs. 1·52 lakh more than in the previous year on water-supply, drainage, and conservancy. All the Town Funds closed with satisfactory balances which aggregated Rs. 4,22,095, exclusive of the Kalaw Town Fund. The Kalaw Town Fund incurred no expenditure during the year, and closed with a balance of Rs. 20,000, the amount contributed by Government on its creation.

Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust, there were six Port Funds. The total receipts and expenditure amounted to Rs. 5·62 lakhs and Rs. 6·01 lakhs,

respectively as compared with Rs. 4·36 lakhs and Rs. 4·15 lakhs in the year 1912-13. Each of the six funds records an increase both in receipts and expenditure. In the Bassein, Akyab, Mergui, and Kyaukpyu Port Funds, expenditure exceeded receipts, but the closing cash balances were satisfactory. The Moulmein and Tavoy Funds are indebted to Government to the extent of Rs. 83,385 in the case of the former and Rs. 7,072 in the case of the latter. All the funds are solvent. The receipts of the four Pilot Funds at Rangoon, Bassein, Moulmein, and Akyab are derived chiefly from pilotage fees, and the expenditure consists mainly of the cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and payments to pilots. The expenditure of the Rangoon Pilot Fund exceeded its receipts, but the Fund had a closing balance of Rs. 65,214. The other three funds all closed the year with credit balances. The Rangoon Police Reward Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 94, and closed with one of Rs. 48. The receipts of the Steam-Boiler Inspection Fund rose from Rs. 77,844 to Rs. 80,306, and the expenditure from Rs. 52,914 to Rs. 54,966, and the Fund closed with a balance of Rs. 1·06 lakh. The total income of the Educational Syndicate Fund was Rs. 48,081, the bulk of which was derived from fees paid for the examinations held by the Syndicate. The balance of the Fund fell from Rs. 21,296 at the beginning to Rs. 18,311 at the end of the year.

Road and Education Cesses.

155. In Lower Burma contributions to education and local public works are made by the District Cess Funds which have been discussed in paragraph 152. No special cesses for these purposes are levied in the Province.

Municipal Revenues.

156. The total ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality was Rs. 42·09 lakhs in the year 1913-14 as compared with Rs. 41·61 lakhs in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure, eliminating charges on works paid from loans, the repayment of loans from sinking fund, and the figures under suspense accounts, amounted to Rs. 44·45 lakhs as against Rs. 39·19 lakhs in the previous year. A small increase in income of Rs. ·48 lakh was thus accompanied by the large increase in expenditure of Rs. 5·26 lakhs, and the ordinary expenditure exceeded the ordinary receipts by Rs. 2·36 lakhs. The head Rates and Taxes shows an increase of Rs. 41,000 and thus provides all but Rs. 6,000 of the total increase in the income of the Municipality. Revision of assessments and the normal expansion of the town are assigned as the reasons for this increase. Expansion of revenue under the former head has, however, shown a steady decrease from Rs. 3·66 lakhs in 1911-12 to Rs. ·96 lakh in 1912-13, and to nearly half that sum in the year of report. Of the large increase in expenditure the sum of Rs. 4·07 lakhs occurred under the head Public Works—Roads, and is due mainly to the spending of large sums in the reconstruction of some of the main thoroughfares of the town. Expenditure under this head may be looked on as to some extent abnormal. Another large item of increased expenditure which is not likely to recur is the Rs. 71,000 recorded under the head Public Safety, an increase due mainly to the purchase of a motor fire-engine and escape. Of increases of expenditure under other heads the most important is the Rs. 72,000 recorded under the head Conservancy. On the other hand, general administration cost Rs. 65,000 less than in the previous year when a sum of Rs. 82,000 was paid for the acquisition of land for Municipal offices. The total receipts for the year including those classed under Extraordinary and Debt amounted to Rs. 52·73 lakhs. The corresponding figure for the year 1912-13 was Rs. 60·57 lakhs and the decrease of Rs. 7·84 lakhs is due chiefly to the fact that no loan was raised during the year. Gross expenditure, however, rose by Rs. 4·71 lakhs to Rs. 64·48 lakhs, with the result that an opening balance of Rs. 28·20 lakhs was reduced to a closing balance of Rs. 16·45 lakhs. Excluding loans raised for reclamation purposes, the indebtedness of the

Rangoon Municipality.

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Municipality fell from Rs. 138 lakhs at the beginning to Rs. 133 lakhs at the end of the year. Attempts were made to float a new loan of Rs. 10¼ lakhs, but only a small portion was tendered at the minimum rate of acceptance which was fixed at 98, and no loan was actually raised during the year. The loan charges for the year amounted to Rs. 14·05 lakhs, and the face value of the securities in the sinking fund at the end of the year was Rs. 23·04 lakhs.

The Reclamation Fund opened with a credit balance of Rs. 7·54 lakhs, and closed with a balance of Rs. 5·48 lakhs. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 6·12 lakhs, and the expenditure to Rs. 7·31 lakhs. The amount actually expended on works was less than three lakhs of rupees. The loans raised for reclamation purposes outstanding at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 60·50 lakhs, and there were securities in the sinking fund of the face value of Rs. 6·70 lakhs.

Other Municipalities.

157. The total ordinary income of Municipalities in the Province (excluding Rangoon) was Rs. 47·15 lakhs as compared with Rs. 43·88 lakhs in the year 1912-13. The ordinary expenditure rose from Rs. 39·26 lakhs to Rs. 43·17 lakhs, and an opening balance of Rs. 13·97 lakhs was increased to a balance of Rs. 18·15 lakhs at the close of the year. Municipal Rates and Taxes produced Rs. 16·62 lakhs as compared with Rs. 16·73 lakhs. Fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses rose from Rs. 15·43 lakhs to Rs. 15·89 lakhs, and the total of all revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation from Rs. 18·55 lakhs to Rs. 19·73 lakhs. Grants and contributions from Government, Local Funds, and other sources rose from Rs. 7·57 lakhs to Rs. 9·84 lakhs.

General administration and collection charges amounted to Rs. 4·39 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·98 lakhs in the previous year. Expenditure on Public Safety rose from Rs. 2·58 lakhs to Rs. 2·60 lakhs. Conservancy cost Rs. 8·10 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·56 lakhs and hospitals and dispensaries Rs. 7·00 lakhs as against Rs. 5·64 lakhs. Expenditure on markets and slaughter-houses increased by Rs. 1·89 lakh to Rs. 5·18 lakhs, and the cost of roads fell from Rs. 5·11 lakhs to Rs. 5·07 lakhs and of the Public Works establishment from Rs. 1·85 lakh to Rs. 1·70 lakh. The cost of education rose from Rs. 1·69 lakh to Rs. 1·87 lakh.

No loan was raised by any Municipality during the year. The total indebtedness of Municipalities to Government at the end of the year stood at Rs. 9 89 lakhs as compared with Rs. 10·47 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The charges on account of interest show a slight decrease to Rs. 1·29 lakh.

Other Funds.

158. There are four educational endowment funds, namely, the Jardine, the Maung Ohn Ghine, the Renoung, and the Coplestone Funds. These funds do not bank with Government, and their accounts do not therefore appear in the Government books. The accounts of the Official Assignee are similarly excluded.

Paper Currency.

159. The average total or gross circulation of notes in 1913-14 was Rs. 5,27·01 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5,32 90 lakhs in 1912-13. At the end of April 1913 the gross circulation was Rs. 5,66·48 lakhs. It fell to a minimum of Rs. 4,07·06 lakhs on the 2nd December 1913, and rose to a maximum of Rs. 7,89·14 lakhs on the 5th March 1914.

There is no reserve treasury in Burma, and to determine the active or net circulation, notes of the Rs. 10,000 denomination have been excluded from the gross circulation. The average net circulation of notes for the year was Rs. 4,71·62 lakhs or Rs. 12·81 lakhs more than in the previous year. The net

circulation on the 31st March 1914 was Rs. 5,84·02 lakhs, a slightly lower figure than that recorded for the 31st March 1913. Of this total 97·24 per cent. was represented by notes of the 5, 10, 50 and 100 denominations, only 2·76 per cent. being accounted for by 500 and 1,000-rupee notes. Notes of the 10 and 100-rupee denominations alone account for over 95 per cent. of the circulation, and the 10-rupee notes are steadily replacing notes of 100 rupees. Ten-rupee notes now constitute 56·50 per cent. of the circulation, as compared with 51·61 per cent. at the close of the year 1912-13, whilst the percentage contributed by the 100-rupee notes has fallen from 44·31 to 38·70.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1913.
Triennial Report on the Hospitals and Dispensaries of Burma for the years 1911 to 1913.
Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1913-14.
Note on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the year 1913.
Triennial Report on Vaccination in Burma for the years 1911-12 to 1913-14.
Statistics of British India, Part V.

Births and Deaths.

Area under registration and total population.

160. No change was effected during the year in the system for registration, or in the area and population under registration. The figures for the population returned as under registration are 5,042,279 males and 4,813,574 females, of whom 6,382,847 are in Lower Burma and 3,473,006 in Upper Burma.

Number of births and deaths.

161. Births exceeded deaths in Lower Burma by 52,128, and in Upper Burma by 22,940, showing a total increase of 8 *per mille* of the whole population of the Province. The number of births registered in the Province in 1913 was 321,396, of which 165,626 were males and 155,770 females, there being thus 106 male to every 100 female births. The Provincial birth-rate shows a slight increase from last year, 32·61, as against 32·13, but still compares unfavourably with the mean birth-rate of 34·20 for the previous five years. The rates for Lower Burma and Upper Burma respectively were 31·74 and 34·20, as compared with 31·68 and 32·96 in 1912. The decrease on the mean figures for the previous five years is general throughout most Districts in both parts of the Province. In the case of some Districts such as Thayetmyo and Minbu, this decrease is probably due to the influence of epidemic malaria. There were 246,328 deaths reported in the Province in 1913, giving a ratio *per mille* of 24·99 as compared with 27·63, the previous five years' mean, and 27·04 the ratio for 1912. The general death-rate in Lower Burma was 23·58, and in Upper Burma 27·60. These rates are considerably lower than the previous five years' mean (26·46 and 29·81), and than the rates for 1912 (26·00 and 28·95). Urban mortality constitutes a considerable drain upon the rural population, which has to supply the deficiency created in most towns by the excess of births over deaths. Thus out of 41 towns in Lower Burma, the births exceeded the deaths in 12 only, and there was a total excess of deaths over births of 7,867. In Upper Burma 7 only out of 18 towns returned an excess of births over deaths, and the total excess of deaths was 1,277. But in rural areas throughout the Province the births exceeded the deaths by 84,212. There was a considerable decrease in infantile mortality, the rate for the whole Province being 221·40 in 1913 as against 228·15 in 1912. The decrease occurred entirely in Lower Burma where the rate fell from 218·24 to 206·35. In Upper Burma there was a slight increase, from 245·66 to 247·07. The decrease was most marked in the urban death-rate. In Lower Burma towns the rate fell from 306·78 to 254·04, and in Upper Burma from 384·37 to 367·65. The rural infantile mortality rate for the Province was 214·17, for Lower Burma 201·55, and for Upper Burma 235·59. In a few places special enquiries into the cause of infantile mortality have been made. The results indicate that a large proportion of infant deaths are attributed to " convulsions " and that tetanus is a frequent cause of mortality in new-born infants. Malnutrition, diseases of the digestive system brought on in many cases no doubt by chills due to insufficient clothing, and low vitality from

birth, and respiratory diseases, are responsible for much of the excess infantile mortality. The problem is obscured by the insufficiency of the information as to the illness preceding death, and as to the age of the deceased infant.

The Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality, Mandalay, has done good work during the year. The Society receives a grant of Rs. 1,000 from Government and one of Rs. 300 from the Mandalay Municipality, but is otherwise dependent on private contributions. At a meeting held on the 29th March 1913, the operations of the Society, hitherto restricted to persons of Burmese nationality, were extended to the Hindu, Mahomedan and Chinese communities.

162. The causes of death were recorded as follows :— **Causes of death.**

	1913.	1912.
Cholera	4,339	7,186
Small-pox	2,816	7,959
Plague	4,308	3,014
Fevers	82,958	85,967
Dysentery and diarrhœa	8,958	11,711
Respiratory diseases	7,184	7,747
Suicide	192	158
Wounding or accident	1,631	1,622
Snake-bite or killed by wild beasts	1,490	1,633
Rabies	2	...
All other causes	132,450	139,492
Total	246,328	266,489

The mortality from epidemic diseases was low both in towns and rural areas. The Provincial death-rate for cholera declined from ·73 to ·44 or little more than half the average for the last five years, ·81. In Upper Burma the rate was particularly low, being only ·18 as compared with ·34 in 1912, and ·81 for the last five years. In Lower Burma, with the exception of the Myaungmya, Ma-ubin and Akyab Districts, the death-rate in rural areas was inconsiderable.

The death-rate from small-pox was 0·29 as compared with ·81 in 1912 and a mean for the last five years of 0·40. The Arakan Division alone contributed more than a quarter of the total deaths from this cause. In Upper Burma all Districts suffered, but the rural population suffered the more heavily, Mandalay being the only town to exhibit a serious mortality. In the matter of plague the Province was not so fortunate as in 1911. The death-rate rose from ·31 to ·44 *per mille*, though the latter figure is considerably below the 1911 ratio, ·61, and the average for the last five years, ·67. The increase was wholly confined to Lower Burma, and the mortality was mainly urban. With the exception of Prome, the towns on the Rangoon-Prome Railway line where a vigorous sanitary campaign was carried on from 1909 to 1912, were either free from plague, or suffered from insignificant attacks. Except in Rangoon and a few other places the systematic destruction of rats was practically abandoned. The total number of inoculations against plague performed in the Province was 13,585. There seems to be a greater recognition of the protection afforded by this measure in Upper than in Lower Burma. Three thousand seven hundred and eighty-four operations had been performed in Mandalay up to the close of the year. Evacuation has not been adopted anywhere on a sufficiently extensive scale definitely to limit mortality from plague in any area. The improvement of general sanitation, especially the cleansing of houses, compounds, and public streets, appears to have exerted an influence in keeping out plague infection, or in limiting its spread. Malaria has been less prevalent and less fatal in the Môn Canal area of the Minbu District. It appears that the condition of the countryside has been greatly improved by the introduction of proper drainage. Two travelling dispensaries were specially equipped for the distribution of quinine and for the treatment of complaints arising from malaria in this District. They started work in October, and their creation was of the nature of an experiment so far as this Province is concerned.

163. The sale and distribution of quinine tablets has made marked progress, 70,857 packets being sold during the year, as compared with 41,777 in 1912. This total comprised 54,054 packets of 5-grain tablets, and 16,803 packets of **Issues of quinine.**

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1-grain tablets. The 5-grain tablets thus have the greater vogue, but the sales of the 1-grain packets have also risen considerably during the year. The quality of the tablets manufactured during the year has been well maintained, frequent analyses showing that the full weight of quinine is contained in the packets.

Emigration and Immigration.

164. The total number of immigrants and emigrants recorded at the ports of Rangoon, Akyab, Moulmein, Kyaukpyu, Tavoy, and Mergui were respectively 380,216 and 355,397, showing increases of 52,634 and 23,877 over the figures for 1912. No records were maintained at the Port of Bassein. The Port of Rangoon returned 313,039 immigrants and 271,687 emigrants, a large increase on the return of the previous year. Two hundred and forty-two thousand six hundred and seventy-nine emigrants left from this port for Indian ports during the year, exceeding the figures for 1912 by 26,374.

Medical Relief.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

165. Eight institutions were opened and four closed during the year 1913. At the end of the year the total number of hospitals and dispensaries was 270.

Attendance and treatment.

166. The total number of patients treated at the civil hospitals and dispensaries aggregated 1,614,469 as compared with 1,567,009 in 1912. The daily average attendance among in-door patients increased from 2,529 in 1912 to 2,836 in 1913 and among the out-door from 8,047 to 8,248. The principal diseases treated in the order of prevalence were (i) malaria, 194,269, (ii) other diseases of the skin, 183,228, (iii) ulcers, 152,790, (iv) injuries, general and local, 117,222, (v) diseases of the eye, 111,263, (vi) dyspepsia, 69,286, (vii) diseases of the ear, 36,644, (viii) diarrhœa, 24,429, (ix) dysentery, 18,096, and (x) goitre, 12,225. There were also treated 771 cases of small-pox and 488 cases of cholera. The number of plague cases treated at plague hospitals in Rangoon and Maymyo fell from 109 in 1912 to 99 in 1913. As usual malaria contributed a very large number of patients. The hospitals and dispensaries in the Akyab and Bhamo Districts have each returned over 10,000 cases. There were 3,861 deaths among the in-door patients treated in the year. The percentage of deaths among the in-patients fell from 7·12 in 1912 to 6·21 in the year of report. The attendance of Burmese patients shows a slight decrease, from 54 per cent. in 1912 to 53·7 per cent. in 1913, but there has been a steady increase in the attendance of the total indigenous population including Chins, Shan and Karens.

The effect of the institution of the New General Hospital on medical work in Rangoon may be judged from the figures of attendance for the first three years of the existence of that institution. The yearly average number of patients treated during the three years 1911—1913 was 79,417 against 62,293 in the previous triennium 1908—10. The Gynœcological Department was opened in 1910. Since that time the yearly average of gynœcological abdominal operations has been 122 against 10 and of general gynœcological operations 90 against 23 in previous years. The high proportion of Burmese women attending is largely due to the growth of this department. The Pathological Laboratory Department has been built and equipped and the Mortuary buildings completed. An administrative block is in course of construction.

General.

167. The expenditure during the year 1913 under all heads amounted to Rs. 16,61,905 against Rs. 16,18,927 in 1912. The increase is chiefly accounted for by the opening of new hospitals and dispensaries. A special grant of one and a half lakhs was made from Imperial Funds for medical works in addition to the provision of Rs. 2 lakhs for such works in the Public Works Budget. A contribution of Rs. 91,800 was also sanctioned from Provincial Funds for the proposed Pasteur Institute in Burma, the buildings for which are now under construction,

and over a lakh of rupees was spent on reclaiming the canal area south of the new General Hospital, Rangoon.

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In 1913 the appointment of an Indian Medical Service Officer as 2nd Deputy Sanitary Commissioner was sanctioned. There were thus at the end of the year 32 appointments (18 Civil Surgeoncies, 7 Special, 4 Jails and 3 Sanitary) reserved for Commissioned Medical Officers in this Province. There was no increase to the cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons in 1913.

The specimens now mounted at the Laboratory attached to the Rangoon General Hospital are sufficiently numerous to provide the Province with a good medical museum. In 1913, 4,526 specimens were examined in connection with the routine ward work against 4,869 in 1912. The Results-System Midwives Scheme has been in operation for the last five years and local bodies in 20 Districts have taken advantage of it. A full enquiry was made into the working of the scheme and Civil Surgeons expressed themselves generally as being in favour of training somewhat older women.

The number of students at the Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon, at the end of the year 1913-14 was 32 against 37 in the previous year. The teaching staff was re-organized and strengthened and a new syllabus was drawn up and approved.

168. The number of inmates in the Rangoon and Minbu Asylums at the end of the year of report was 562 or one less than in the previous year. Though the total accommodation was quite sufficient, yet in the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum there was overcrowding in the European and female sections. It is satisfactory that the mortality of the two asylums fell from 25·78 per cent. of the daily average strength in 1912 to 16·50 in the year of report. The total expenditure of the Lunatic Asylum at Rangoon in 1913 amounted to Rs. 1,32,750 against Rs. 1,27,667 in 1912. The expenditure on "Diet and Clothing" has increased from Rs. 77-11-4 in 1912 to Rs. 87-12-0 in the year 1913. This is due to the increase in the number of convalescents fed in accordance with the new scale of diets and to the purchase of cloth consequent on the closing of the work in the loom-shed. In the Minbu Lunatic Asylum, the cost per head of the population amounted to Rs. 127-13-7 as against Rs. 125-12-11 in 1912. Under manufactures there was a net profit of Rs. 10,074-0-2 in both the asylums as compared with Rs. 22,916-2-10 in the previous year. This large decrease in profit is attributed partly to the closure of the manufacturing department in the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum and partly to greater correctness in the preparation of the statement. Detailed plans and estimates for the new Lunatic Asylum have been under preparation in the Public Works Department.

Lunatic Asylums.

Sanitation.

169. Meetings of the Divisional Sanitary Board were held during the year at Maymyo, Mônywa, Henzada, Rangoon, Moulmein and Kindat, and various schemes were considered. A special non-recurring grant of Rs. 10½ lakhs was received from the Government of India, Rs. 50,000 being allotted for the vaccine depôt at Meiktila, and the remaining Rs. 10 lakhs for expenditure, to be spread over a period of 3 years, on urban sanitary works. From the latter sum Rs. 1,88,382 was distributed during the year for urban sanitary improvements. A further annual recurring grant of 3 lakhs was also received during the year from the Government of India, making a total recurring grant of 6 lakhs. Allotments were made from this sum of Rs. 73,100 to Maymyo, Rs. 62,930 to Prome, and Rs. 50,000 to Akyab for drainage schemes, and of Rs. 46,485 to Maymyo, Rs. 88,794 to Mônywa, and Rs. 91,793 to Yamèthin for water-supplies. Progress was made in the erection of the new bazaar at Paungdè, the Pegu bazaar improvement and Mandalay drainage schemes, and the Pegu water-supply. Work on the bazaar at Toungoo was confined to the dismantling of old sheds, and the erection of temporary sheds pending the completion of the estimates for the new bazaar. Tube wells were successfully sunk at Insein, Mandalay and Toungoo, and similar wells are being sunk in several other towns.

Principal works and expenditure.

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The whole of the recurring grant of Rs. 6 lakhs was allotted for expenditure on various schemes in different towns throughout the Province.

The proportions of the income derived from Municipal, Town and District and District Cess Funds expended on sanitary works during the year 1912-13 were respectively 41·77, 24·24, and 6·10 as compared with 37·49, 32·25 and 5·77 in 1911-12. The total expenditure of the various Municipal and Local Funds on sanitary works was Rs. 53·91 lakhs out of a total income of Rs. 177·88 lakhs. Of this Rs. 11·80 lakhs were spent on water-supply, Rs. 8·98 lakhs on drainage, Rs. 14·58 lakhs on conservancy, and Rs. 18·55 lakhs on other sanitary works.

Vaccination.

Establishment.

170. There was an increase of six vaccinators in the permanent staff, one each in the Sandoway, Insein, Ma-ubin, and Myaungmya Municipalities, and two (District vaccinators) in the Ma-ubin District, making a total establishment of 278 vaccinators and 49 Native Superintendents of Vaccination. Several temporary additional vaccinators were sanctioned for work in the Kyaukpyu and Meiktila Districts to meet the demand created by the outbreak of small-pox in these Districts. An additional vaccinator for 6 months was also sanctioned as an experimental measure for the Salween District, to work during the dry season.

Two Native Superintendents and 13 vaccinators were either removed or dismissed from the service. Three Native Superintendents of Vaccination resigned and three retired on pension.

Number of operations.

171. The total number of operations performed in the Districts and towns, excluding those performed in dispensaries and jails, amounted to 512,801, of which 422,604 were primary and 90,197 re-vaccinations, as compared with 416,121 primary and 117,526 re-vaccinations or a total of 533,647 operations in the year 1912-13. Thus although there has been a decrease of 27,329 in re-vaccinations, the number of primary operations has risen during the year by 6,483. The decrease in re-vaccinations was mainly due to the absence of small-pox in epidemic form. The Districts which recorded the highest number in primary operations were Akyab (22,209), Pakôkku (20,336), Henzada (20,319), Southern Shan States (20,043) and Kyaukpyu (19,861). In re-vaccinations Rangoon returned the highest number of operations, namely, 22,959, the next highest figure being 12,675 in Sagaing.

The total of successful primary operations by all agencies for the year 1913-14 was slightly less than in either of the two preceding years, being 392,111 against 393,793 in 1912-13 and 393,944 in 1911-12. The decrease is however confined to dispensary and army vaccination, and in the combined rural and urban areas there has been a successive annual increase in successful primary operations by the vaccination staff during the last three years. The returns for the year 1913-14 by the special vaccination staff show a higher total of successful primary operations than do those of any of the previous five years; 388,746 primary operations and 52,094 re-vaccinations were successful during the year, the corresponding figures for 1912-13 being 387,823 and 72,106. The percentage of success for the whole Province in primary cases was 96·59 as compared with 96·71 in 1912-13. The corresponding percentages for re-vaccination were 65·40 and 68·12. The total number of persons successfully vaccinated per 1,000 of population for the Province in 1913-14 was 36·39 as compared with 37·96 in the preceding year, 36·33 in 1911-12, and an average of 33·31 for the previous five years. The average number of persons vaccinated by each vaccinator was 1,842. The total number of operations performed in 53 towns in Burma was 67,183, of which 32,774 were primary and 34,409 re-vaccinations. The total number of successful primary operations was 31,231, and of re-vaccinations 18,205, giving a ratio of 98·31 and 63·58 per cent. respectively.

The number of infants under one year primarily vaccinated in the Province was 101,667, and that of children between the ages of one and six years was

196,417, or a total of 298,084 children vaccinated successfully during the year. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 96,473, 194,939 and 291,412 respectively.

The total number of operations performed in dispensaries was 5,667, of which 3,573 were primary and 2,094 re-vaccinations, as compared with 5,968 primary and 4,737 re-vaccinations in 1912-13. This decline is probably in part at least due to the decrease in epidemic small-pox in many parts of the Province. The percentages of success attained in primary operations and in re-vaccinations were 92·26 and 61·20 respectively as compared with 95·47 and 55·79 in 1912-13. The vaccination work in Jails has been well maintained during the last three years. On an average population of 16,746, there were 26,017 vaccinations of prisoners. Of these operations 2,173 were primary and 23,844 secondary with respective success rates of 85·78 and 70·93 per cent. The total number of operations verified by Civil Surgeons amounted to 62,177 primary and 5,221 re-vaccinations, and by Native Superintendents of Vaccination 224,163 primary and 49,151 re-vaccinations. The average percentages of inspections to the total inspected were 14·61 primary and 5·66 re-vaccinations by Civil Surgeons, and 52·68 primary and 53·26 re-vaccinations by Superintendents.

Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila.

172. The method of vaccinating calves which had been previously in vogue at the Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila, was slightly modified with improved results. By the new method the average yield obtained from the cow calves is stated to be 48·2 grammes. There was less demand for lymph during the year owing to the relative absence of small-pox epidemics. The number of doses of glycerinated vaccine lymph issued was 755,114 against 757,518 in 1912-13, and 693,913 in 1911-12. The actual number of doses of vaccine prepared, 806,660, constituted a record for the Depôt. In 348,031 primary operations of which the results were communicated, the success-rate was 96·75 per cent. which is the best average yet obtained. The cost of the Depôt rose from Rs. 14,005 to Rs. 15,900, on account of an increase in the cost of European stores, and in the salaries of the staff. Thirty-six apprentice vaccinators were trained during the year, as compared with 32 in the preceding year. Of this number 35 obtained qualifying certificates. Progress was made during the year in the improvement of the Depôt.

General.

173. Inoculators were found at work in several Districts, and to have originated outbreaks of plague. In the Pegu District where the Act for the prohibition of inoculation is in force, one inoculator, an ex-vaccinator, was convicted, and 22 persons, who had allowed themselves to be inoculated, were prosecuted and fined.

The total expenditure on vaccination during the year was Rs. 2,04,873-1-8 as compared with Rs. 2,05,198-12-2 in 1912-13. The average cost of each successful operation for the whole Province was Re. 0-7-6 as against Re. 0-7-8 in the previous year, the District averages ranging from Re. 1-8-11 in the Ruby Mines District, to Re. 0-3-3 in the Sagaing District.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES:—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1913-14.
Statistics of British India, Parts VI and VII.

General System of Public Instruction.

See paragraphs 253 to 280 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Education.

Educational measures.

174. The University question is still under consideration. The site chosen is that now occupied by the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum, but the suitability of this site is being questioned by those most interested and it is not unlikely that the University will ultimately be located in a much more extensive and picturesque site in the suburbs of Rangoon. The revision of the rules and syllabus of the Patamabyan Examinations and the reconstitution of the Committee were taken in hand and important changes were made. There is now no special test for the Patamagyaw. The candidate gaining the highest marks in the Patamagyi Examination is declared the Patamagyaw for the year. The "Mulathincha," which is a special examination in Arithmetic established for *pôngyis*, has proved very popular. A fund similar to that established for poor European children was sanctioned for the poor children of other nationalities. The scheme for providing Elementary teachers has been considerably extended and is proving successful. Two Elementary classes were attached to *pôngyi kyaungs* and there is a keen desire for more classes. With a view to developing Primary education six Deputy Inspectors of Schools were placed on special duty. The reports of these officers have not yet been received, but one result of their labours so far has been the large number of new schools, especially monastic, that have come on to the list of registered schools. The number of Deputy Inspectors increased from 67 to 72, and the total number of officers in the Subordinate service from 591 to 661. Other matters of interest during the year include the holding of a Commercial examination in connection with the Midland Counties Union of Educational Institutions, Birmingham, the abolition of primary scholarships in European Schools, the modification of the rules of admission of non-European children into European Schools, and the awarding of Junior University Scholarships on the results of the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final in place of the Matriculation Examination of the Calcutta University.

Number of schools and scholars, and expenditure.

175. The number of educational institutions of all kinds was 24,283 and the attendance 504,928 of whom 101,639 were girls. The percentage of male scholars to the male population of school-going age was 43·48 and of female scholars to the female population 11·42. The numbers for 1912-13 were:— institutions 23,590 and attendance 459,593 of whom 83,784 were girls. Institutions increased by 2·9 per cent. and attendance by 9·9 per cent. Of the total number of institutions 7,066 were public, with an attendance of 324,085 and 17,217 private with 180,843 pupils.

The total expenditure on Education was Rs. 61,54,672 as compared with Rs. 53,36,146 in 1912-13; an increase of nearly Rs. 8·2 lakhs. Funds were provided from the following sources: Provincial Rs. 25,71,544, District Cess Funds Rs. 5,67,517, Municipal Funds Rs. 4,47,180, School Fees Rs. 18,48,457, and Private Sources Rs. 7,19,974. There has been an increase under each source, the largest being Rs. 3·4 lakhs under the head "Provincial" and Rs. 1·95 lakh under that of "Fees." Of the total Provincial expenditure nearly Rs. 11 lakhs were contributed from Imperial Funds. Of this contribution the Public Works Department spent a little over Rs. 3 lakhs on the construction of Government

buildings, whilst the Education Department spent nearly Rs. 3½ lakhs from non-recurring grants almost entirely on building and equipment grants. About Rs. 4½ lakhs have also been expended by the department from the special recurring grant, Rs. 2·42 lakhs of this amount being accounted for by Elementary education for boys, and Rs. 0·57 lakh by education for girls.

Direct expenditure amounted to Rs. 40·05 lakhs and indirect to Rs. 21·49 lakhs. The amounts under these two heads in 1912-13 were Rs. 34·81 lakhs and Rs. 18·55 lakhs respectively. The average expenditure per head of population rose from Re. 0-7-0 to Re. 0-8-2. The average cost of educating each pupil in Arts Colleges fell from Rs. 416-6-4 to Rs. 378-3-1, but it rose in Secondary Schools from Rs. 23-7-8 to Rs. 24-1-9 and in Primary Schools from Rs. 4-9-7 to Rs. 4-9-8.

Primary education.

176. The term "Primary School" includes all European, Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Schools teaching up to the Fourth Standard. It also includes, for certain purposes, the Primary Department (Standards I to IV) of Secondary Schools. Public Primary institutions increased from 5,321 in 1912-13 to 5,645. There was an increase in both Boys' and Girls' Schools. The attendance in Public Primary institutions rose from 184,356 to 213,746. The slight increase in 1912-13 and the substantial increase in 1913-14 may be taken as indications that the decline in Primary education, which began in 1909-10, has been arrested. The expenditure on Primary Schools for boys was Rs. 21,49,555 as against Rs. 18,77,876, these figures including the cost of Primary Departments of Secondary Schools. The cost was met as follows:—From Provincial Funds, Rs. 5,13,782, District Cess Funds Rs. 4,20,860, Municipal Funds Rs. 2,10,622, fees and other sources Rs. 10,04,291.

The total cost of Primary Education for boys and girls was approximately Rs. 24·8 lakhs. In 1912-13 the cost was about Rs. 21·8 lakhs.

Secondary education.

177. Secondary Schools are those in which there are standards higher than the Fourth. This paragraph, however, deals only with Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Secondary Schools, and not with those for Europeans and for girls. The number of Anglo-Vernacular schools for boys rose from 110 to 116 and the attendance from 22,652 to 25,251. Of the pupils attending these schools 5·9 per cent. were in the High School stage, 34·7 in the Middle stage, 38·0 in the Upper Primary and 21·4 in the Lower Primary. The number of Vernacular Secondary schools rose from 804 to 861 and the attendance from 59,648 to 67,340. There was in the High School stage an increase of two schools and twelve pupils. The percentages of attendance in the various stages of Vernacular schools were ·07 in the High School stage, 10·0 in the Middle, 20·4 in the Upper Primary, and 69·5 in the Lower Primary. In both Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Schools the percentage in the High School stage has slightly risen, but the figures generally show little variation from those for 1912-13.

The results of the public examinations in Secondary Schools were as follows:—

	1912-13.		1913-14.	
	Number presented.	Number passed.	Number presented	Number passed.
Anglo-Vernacular High School Final ...	169	94	249	141
Calcutta University Matriculation	275	225	355	257
Anglo-Vernacular Standard VII	1,847	950	2,116	1,057
Vernacular Standard IX	60	29	43	21
Vernacular Standard VII	1,673	305	1,925	837

(*N.B.*—These figures include girls attending boys' schools.)

CHAP. VII—INSTRUCTION.

The expenditure on Secondary education rose from Rs. 22,16,782 to Rs. 25,61,044. Provincial Funds contributed Rs. 7,80,163, District Cess Funds Rs. 2,08,148, Municipal Funds Rs. 3,11,198, Fees Rs. 10,32,356 and Private Sources Rs. 2,29,179.

Collegiate education.

178. There was a large increase in the number of College students by 109. The average number monthly on the rolls in the Government College rose from 311 to 411 and in the Baptist College from 42 to 62. The attendance in the Law Class at the Government College was 14 against 8 in the previous year. In the last five years the average number of students in the two Colleges has risen from 256 to 473. The large majority of students are Burmans, but it is to be noted that Mahomedans have increased from ten in 1912-13 to twenty-three in 1913-14.

The results of the University Examinations at the two Colleges were as follows:—

Examinations.	1912-13			1913-14.		
	Number presented.	Number passed.	Percentage.	Number presented.	Number passed.	Percentage.
B. A.	45	28	62·2	55	23	41·8
B. Sc.	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. T.	...	...	...	2	2	100·0
I. A.	113	75	66·4	116	48	41·4
I. Sc.	9	7	77·8	10	8	80·0

These figures do not include private students of whom one passed the B.A. eight the I.A. and one the I.Sc.

The small number of passes in the B. A. and I. A. examinations was due chiefly to failures in English and Logic. This seems to indicate that the marking in English was stricter than in the previous year.

During the year there were 11 Burma students at the Medical College, Calcutta; 30 at the Royapuram Medical School, Madras; 32 at the Government Medical School, Rangoon; and 2 at the Engineering College, Sibpur.

The expenditure on Collegiate education rose from Rs. 1,46,988 to Rs. 1,78,884. This was met as follows:—Provincial Funds, Rs. 1,01,368; Fees Rs. 41,065; and Private Sources Rs. 36,451.

Technical education.

179. The number of technical institutions was 10 with an attendance of 566 pupils. In 1912-13 the number was six and the attendance 421 pupils. The increase is due to the placing of three commercial schools in Rangoon on the list of public schools and to the opening of a Dressmaking Department at St. Matthew's Girls' School, Moulmein.

The attendance in the Government School of Engineering, Insein, rose from 33 in 1912-13 to 42, in spite of the restriction against the admission of non-domiciled Indians. With a view to making the school more popular, especially among Burmans, several changes in the training of the students, both on the Civil Engineering and Mechanical sides, have been made and practical training has received more attention. The increase in the percentage of Burman students, 18 in 1912-13 to 54 in 1913-14, is encouraging. There was a considerable falling off in the numbers attending the three private industrial schools.

Training schools.

180. There were 12 Normal Schools as in the previous year, eight for men and four for women. Of these, five were Government and seven aided institutions. The total number of Normal students, including students in Elementary Training classes, was 716 against 494 in 1912-13. Of that number 127 were students in Elementary Training classes, the number of which was increased by six. The

numbers of certificated or trained teachers in the Province have risen considerably, Vernacular 1,776 to 2,066; Anglo-Vernacular 880 to 1,032; and European 150 to 164. For the first time two students of the Government Normal School, Rangoon, both female, took the B. T. Examination of the Calcutta University and both passed in the first division.

The Normal School curriculum was revised during the year. The expenditure on Normal Schools rose from Rs. 1,80,372 to Rs. 1,84,152. Provincial Funds provided Rs. 1,69,136, and the remainder came from fees and other sources.

European schools.

181. The number of European Schools was 32, the same as in 1912-13. The attendance rose from 4,416 to 4,642. These figures include 592 pupils who are not Europeans. The actual number of Europeans and Anglo-Indians in all schools was 4,487 as compared with 4,142 in 1912-13. The largest European Boys' School is St. Paul's, Rangoon, with 530 pupils, and the largest Girls' School, St. John's Convent, Rangoon, with 323 pupils. There is only one Government European School in Burma, that at Maymyo, with 193 pupils. During the year 3 men passed the B. A., 2 men and 7 women the I. A., 5 men the I. Sc., one boy the Matriculation, 15 boys and 16 girls the European High School, and 2 boys the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final.

The total expenditure on European education rose from Rs. 4,31,722 to Rs. 5,37,336. Of this amount Provincial Funds contributed Rs. 2,13,796 and the remainder came from Municipal Funds, fees, and private sources. The large increase is due chiefly to expenditure on buildings and equipment.

Education of Mahomedans and special classes.

182. There were 119 public and 262 private schools for Mahomedans. In the previous year there were 111 public and 233 private schools. The number of Mahomedan pupils increased in both public and private schools, in public schools from 9,917 to 11,584 and in private from 5,564 to 7,131. The number of Mahomedan girls has risen from 1,870 to 2,288 in public schools and from 1,345 to 1,682 in private schools. Two Mahomedans took the B.A. degree, two passed the I. A. Examination, 17 the Matriculation and 11 the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final. During the year a conference of leading Mahomedan gentlemen was held and a Committee was formed to draw up proposals for the improvement and expansion of Mahomedan education. The report of the Committee is now under the consideration of Government.

There were 1,320 public schools for special classes as against 1,276 in 1912-13 and the attendance of 47,593 shows an increase of 5,589. Private schools for special classes numbered 875 with an attendance of 10,524 as compared with 865 and 11,528 in 1912-13. The majority of these schools are for Karens. Shans, Talaings and Tamils come next in number. Government schools are maintained for Chins at Falam, Tiddim and Mindat, for Kachins at Sinlumkaba, and for Shans at Lashio, Hsipaw and Taunggyi. The school at Taunggyi is Anglo-Vernacular and intended chiefly for the sons of Shan Chiefs.

Female education.

183. In 1912-13 the increase in the number of girls was shown as 4,416, a figure well above the normal rate of increase. This figure however was far exceeded in 1913-14 when the number of girls in public schools rose from 80,325 to 97,050 showing an increase of 16,725 or nearly 21 per cent. In private schools the number rose from 3,459 to 4,589. The number of public girls' schools was 706, showing an increase of 15. Of these, five which are Vernacular are maintained by Government. The percentage of girls attending boys' schools to the total number of girls attending school was 76·6 as against 74·8 in 1912-13. The distribution of girls over the various stages was as follows: College 7, High 172, Middle 1,851, Upper Primary 9,557, Lower Primary 85,041, and Special Schools, 454. The numbers that passed examinations were B. T. 2, I.A. 7, Matriculation 4, Anglo-Vernacular High School Final 2, and European High School 17. The total expenditure on the education of girls rose from Rs. 4,67,112 Rs. 5,33,539. This amount represents 9 per cent. of the total expenditure on education.

Insein Reformatory School.

184. Although the number of admissions during the year was smaller than that of the year previous, the number released was also smaller. Thus the year closed with 101 boys against 94 in 1912-13. The removal of the school to Thazi has been decided upon. The buildings of the Government Anglo-Vernacular School, Thazi, after the necessary additions and alterations have been made, will be used for the Reformatory School. New rules have been introduced with a view to improving the condition of the boys and to emphasizing the educational character of the school.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

185. The number of publications registered during the year was 362 as compared with 338 in 1912. Of these 186 were written in Burmese, 75 in Pâli-Burmese 35 in Pâli, and 35 in English. The Urdu and Chin languages are not represented, but works in Bengali, Pwo-Karen and Tangthu have been added. There has been an increase in the number of authors especially of *pôngyis*. The only biography published was a brief sketch of the life of Dr. Judson, the Pioneer Baptist Missionary to Burma. The number of dramas registered during the year is insignificant, 5 only as compared with 37 in 1912. No reason has been offered for this large decrease. Eleven works of fiction were published as compared with thirteen in 1912. The story of "Maung Bala" written in Burmese by U Ba Bo is semi-religious in character and intended to point out to Buddhists the folly of practising charity injudiciously. One hundred and ninety-five of the total number of publications are on religious subjects, an increase of 50 per cent. on the figures for the previous year. The increase is confined to the Buddhist religion, and it is suggested that it is due rather to competition among the printing presses than to any special activity among the Buddhist societies. The publications treat of the usual subjects, such as the Scriptures with commentaries, the classical stories of Gautama Buddha's birth, the way to attain Nirvana, rules for meditation and prayer, and the practising of charity. It is worthy of note that the number of works written in the Pâli language has declined from 48 to 34. Miscellaneous works were slightly more numerous than in 1912 and together with works on religion furnish over 75 per cent. of the total publications for the year.

Presses, newspapers and periodicals.

186. Excluding the three Government Presses there were 160 presses in Burma at the end of the year as compared with 134 in the previous year. The number of presses in Rangoon and Mandalay rose respectively from 58 to 64 and 28 to 29. Of the remaining presses, the Tharrawaddy, Amherst and Prome Districts supplied 14, 14 and 10 respectively. Fifty-five newspapers and 28 periodicals were published during the year as compared with 54 and 21 in 1912-13. There were three daily newspapers in English, two in Burmese, one in English and Burmese, one in Tamil, and one in Chinese. Of the remaining newspapers, four were published tri-weekly, 11 bi-weekly, 19 weekly and 13 monthly. Of the periodicals other than those published at Government Presses three are in Karen, one in English and Burmese, and the remainder in English or Burmese.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 294 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Rangoon Societies.

187. No new societies have been reported during the year, and there is little of literary interest to note about existing societies. The Literary Society increased its membership from 122 to 140, and purchased 443 new books during the year. Three lectures were delivered before the Rangoon Teachers' Association, and a prize was awarded for the best essay on the "Teaching of English to Asiatics."

A list of Talaing manuscripts preserved in the Amherst District has been compiled under the auspices of the Bernard Free Library, and some of these manuscripts are being copied for deposit in the library. Interesting papers were read at the meetings of the Burma Research Society during the year.

Arts and Sciences.

188. The Burman art industries have suffered from the competition between their products and the inferior but cheaper and more useful articles imported from abroad. The most flourishing of the Burmese arts is perhaps in silver-work which has the advantage of a large market for its products in this country. The principal centres for silver-work are Rangoon, Mandalay, Pegu, Dabein and Thayetmyo, but it is not confined to these centres. Wood-carving has more workers than any of the other art industries, but is probably less in demand than it used to be owing to the supply of cheap tinsel and other decorations. Ivory-carving is confined for the most part to Moulmein. The lacquer-ware industry, the principal centre for which is at Pagan, is also suffering from competition with goods imported from Europe. Wrought-iron work is at present confined to the making of pagoda *htis* and screens of metal work for religious buildings, and there is room for development in this industry. The principal centres of the brass-ware industry are in Upper Burma, but the industry has not reached a high stage of development. Although some artistic work is turned out, Burmese pottery can scarcely at present be classed as an art industry. Speaking generally Burmese art, though by no means dead, is in much need of encouragement, and it is a matter for regret that no exhibitions of art handicrafts were held during the year outside Rangoon. A welcome feature of the year is the offer made by the Rangoon Municipality of six scholarships to art workers' apprentices resident in Rangoon. These scholarships are of course in addition to those already given by the Local Government.

The Annual Provincial Art Handicraft Exhibition was held at Rangoon in February 1914. There was a slight falling off in the number of exhibits, but out-stations were well represented. The quality of the exhibits was generally good, the low relief silver work being of a specially high order of merit. Statuettes, both in silver and bronze, and niello works, showed accurate and careful work. There is a lack of finish and details about most of the Burmese wood-carving, and the artists need to study anatomy more closely. In ivory-carving with a good general standard there were some exhibits of outstanding merit, and the exhibits of lacquer were up to the average. The classes for goldsmiths attracted little competition.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE :—

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1913-14.

189. The staff attached to the Archæological Survey in Burma, though small, has carried out some successful work during the year.

The Architectural Survey of the Mandalay Palace and the first part of the monograph on the Ananda Temple at Pagan were practically completed. Of the other main items on the programme of work for the year, the completion of the monograph on the terra-cotta plaques with jātaka scenes from the Petleik Pagoda at Pagan was delayed because 226 out of the 550 jātaka stones were missing at the Petleik Pagoda. The materials for the compilation of the guide books on Pagan and Mandalay have been collected and only require arrangement. As usual the preservation of ancient monuments has received the attention of the Archæological Department, and mention may be made of the special repairs carried out at the Upāli Thein, the Seinnyet Ama Temple, and the Pathothamya Temple at Pagan. The Upāli Thein or ordination bell is said to have been built during the reign of Anawratha (1044-1077 A. D.), but its principal interest lies in the frescoes it contains. The other two buildings are probably of even older date. A good deal of excavation was carried out during the year at Yathemyo and neighbouring sites at Pegu, and work of a similar nature was done at Twante. A special feature of the year was the discovery of a number of old Talaing inscriptions and relics. At the sites of the Shwegugyi and Ajapāla Pagodas in the Pegu District, erected in the 15th century A.D., 66 terra-cotta plaques were discovered and a number of them bore inscriptions in Talaing. Much still remains to be done in this District which is rich in Talaing relics. The appointment of an Epigraphist has been sanctioned, and it is hoped that it will now be possible both to make use of the mass of information already available in Burmese inscriptions, and to bring to light more Talaing epigraphs.

The Yezagyo village-tract in the Upper Chindwin District was notified during the year under sections 20 and 23 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act. The cost of the archæological survey was Rs. 24,819, whilst the sums spent on archæological works amounted to Rs. 30,249, towards which a grant of Rs. 8,000 was made by the Government of India. Sanction was given during the year to a considerable increase in the value of the archæological scholarship.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES:—

Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma for the year 1913.
Statistics of British India, Part VI.
Report on the working of the Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, for the year ending the 31st March 1914.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 297 to 300 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Ecclesiastical.

190. For nearly six months of the year the Bishop of Rangoon was absent on leave, the Ven'ble Archdeacon Cory acting as Commissary during his absence. In furtherance of the scheme for building a church in every District headquarters in the Province, a small church was erected at the expense of a private donor on land granted by Government at Ma-ubin, and with the exception of the tower, the building of the Burma Memorial Church at Maymyo was completed.

Stationery.

191. As in previous years the bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, Calcutta, from the Indian Mills. The cost of stationery issued to General Departments and Government Presses in Burma during the year was Rs. 76,099 and Rs. 2,04,944, respectively. As compared with last year the figures show an increase of Rs. 3,788 under General Departments and a decrease of Rs. 67,794 under Government Presses.

Office of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma.

192. One thousand seven hundred and eighty-three articles were examined in the Medico-Legal Department as against 1,519 articles in the preceding year. Though the number of human poisoning cases investigated has shown a decrease from 259 in 1912 to 210 in 1913, the number of articles examined rose from 596 to 782. The number of stain cases (blood and seminal) increased by 76. Two hundred and seventy-two articles were examined for the presence of poison with positive results in the case of 115. In 63 of these articles arsenic was detected. In the General Analytical Department the number of articles examined increased from 46,150 in 1912 to 46,629 in the year of report. This increase is due to the work conducted for the Excise Department relating to cocaine, morphia, ganja and opium. One thousand one hundred and sixty-four articles were examined in the Bacteriological Department, which, as compared with the work of last year shows an increase of 343 examinations. Two hundred and seventy-six samples of blood were examined for the Widal's reaction for typhoid, paratyphoid and Malta fever, 66 more than in 1912; 88 blood smears were examined for malarial parasites. There was a decrease in the number of waters examined. Only 55 samples of water were examined in 1913 for fitness for drinking purposes as against 161 in 1912. The new laboratory building was completed and occupied on the 1st April 1913.

Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing.

CHAP. IX.—MISCELLANEOUS.

193. The Government Presses in the Province are three in number, *viz.*, the Central Press in Rangoon, the Jail Branch Press, also in Rangoon, and the Maymyo Branch Press. The work which is carried out at these presses is chiefly printing for Government Departments and has been noticed in Chapter VII, *supra*, in the section entitled "Literature and the Press." The receipts as shown in the books of the Accountant-General which include payments made to the Treasury direct, amounted to Rs. 53,151 in the year of report against Rs. 54,231 in the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 3,85,387 against Rs. 4,29,235. Printing work to the value of Rs. 21,700 was given out to private presses as compared with Rs. 21,000 in the previous year. The value of outturn of work from the Central Press, including the amount paid to private presses, was Rs. 3,28,149, from the Jail Press Rs. 90,663, and from the Maymyo Branch Press Rs. 14,522, in all Rs. 4,33,334. The corresponding total for 1912-13 was Rs. 4,10,347. The value of Dead Stock at the three presses, exclusive of land and buildings, is estimated at Rs. 6,69,262.

Printed by order of the Government of Burma.

G. B. C. P. O.—No. 699(a), C. Secy., 9(a), 20-1-1915—650—Leo. N.

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OF THE
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Map
OF
BURMA
SHOWING
DIVISIONS AND DISTRICTS
1914-15
Scale: 64 Miles = 1 Inch
REFERENCES.
Boundary between Lower and Upper Burma.
Divisional Boundary
District Boundary
Tributary States
Divisional and District Headquarters
District Headquarters (a) if a Municipality or the Headquarters of a Town Committee
(b) if not
Municipalities or areas administered by Town Committees
Towns and Villages which are not Municipalities nor administered by Town Committees
Cantonments
Railways completed
Railways in progress
Embankments
Roads
Mule tracks
Irrigated areas
Light-houses and Light-vessels
BENGAL
ASSAM
CHINA
SIAM
BAY OF BENGAL
LOWER CHINDWIN
MERGUI ARCHIPELAGO

XVI

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR

1914–15

RANGOON

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING, BURMA

1915

LIST OF AGENTS

FOR THE

SALE OF GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

IN INDIA:

THACKER, SPINK & Co., Calcutta and Simla.
W. NEWMAN & Co., Calcutta.
THACKER & Co., Ltd., Bombay.
HIGGINBOTHAM & Co., Madras.
SUPERINTENDENT, AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSION PRESS, Rangoon.
* D. B. TARAPOREVALA SONS & Co., 103, Medows Street, Fort, Bombay.
BUTTERWORTH & Co. (India), Ltd., 8-2, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

IN ENGLAND:

HENRY S. KING & Co., 65, Cornhill, E.C.
A. CONSTABLE & Co., 10, Orange Street, Leicester Square, W.C.
KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & Co., Ltd., 68—74, Carter Lane, E.C., and 25, Museum Street, W.C.
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[The maximum length of the Summary is from 20 to 30 pages, and of Part II (excluding the red-letter chapters) 150 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1914-15.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(1) The Administration; the Frontier States; and the People.

Administration.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year. A new District called the Putao District was constituted during the year in the Mandalay Division of Upper Burma, lying to the north of the Myitkyina District. Other administrative territorial changes were of slight importance.

The Shan States and Karenni.

2. Apart from the escapade—to which an end was quickly put—of a woman named Nang Mi Möng belonging to the Kantarawadi family of Karenni, who entered the State of Möng Pan with a small following from Siam and tried to raise a force for the invasion of Burma, and the alarm which filled the State of North Hsenwi at the unrest among the Kachins in the north, no event occurred during the year to disturb the peace of the Northern and Southern Shan States. The war caused no excitement, and the *Sawbwas* gave practical and spontaneous proofs of their loyalty by contributing immediately according to their means to the various war funds. Death removed two of the Chiefs and they were succeeded by their sons; the State of Kenghkam also was the poorer by the resignation of its public-spirited administratrix, Sao Nang Tip Hti La. A notable feature of the year was the opening of the Southern Shan States Railway. The internal administration of the States was generally satisfactory. Crime increased slightly, but its volume is still small; good progress was made with public works, especially roads and education; the forest and medical departments can also point to good results. On the other hand agriculture suffered from a poor season; the rainfall was capricious and only a very few States enjoyed a good harvest. Cattle disease too, widely prevalent throughout the States, caused heavy losses, and trade was affected by the war. The timber trade collapsed and a fall in prices greatly reduced the value of other articles of export. The finances of the States, however, are in a sound condition, and no reduction in the standard of living of the people is as yet discernible. In Karenni the States were satisfactorily administered, and the border between Siam and Karenni was peaceful. But the complete collapse of the timber trade,

on which the country is practically dependent, at the outbreak of the war dealt a rude blow to the States' prosperity. The crops too were generally poor and trade was bad. Uneasiness was also caused in the States of Möng Mit, Kamti and Hsawnghsup by the Kachin risings in the north, but prompt measures soon restored confidence. Möng Mit suffered from a poor harvest, a calamitous outbreak of cattle disease and the collapse in the timber trade. The administration of the State, however, was satisfactorily conducted; there was but little crime and the finances are said to be in a sound condition. Both Kamti and Hsawnghsup suffered from the poor season.

The Chin Hills.

3. Disturbances arose in the Somra Tract of the Chin Hills on the death of Komyang, a Chief who had in his lifetime maintained order in those parts. Prompt measures were taken and the unrest subsided. Elsewhere peace prevailed in both the administered and unadministered area, and an excellent spirit of loyalty was displayed throughout the Hills in connection with the war. The various Chiefs came forward with gifts of money, and all the Chin sepoys volunteered for active service. Difficulties caused by the payment of tribal dues arose during the year, but were peacefully composed. There was but little crime; but the season was not a prosperous one, rats spreading havoc among the paddy crops, and excessive rain spoiling the wheat. Education is progressing, and the civil hospitals were again largely attended.

The North-Eastern frontier.

4. The administration of the new Putao District began to take shape. Tribute was collected, the construction of roads pushed on, and a large number of appointment orders issued to headmen. Towards the end of December risings of Kachins occurred in the Mogaung and Kamaing jurisdictions of the Myitkyina District, followed, a couple of months later, by an outbreak in the Putao District. The insurrection was suppressed by the Military Police and the regular troops that were despatched to the scene of disturbance, and several of the ringleaders were captured. Generally speaking, the Kachin Chiefs in the unadministered area remained well disposed, but some transborder Chiefs in the Hukong valley supported the rising, and it was found necessary to deal out punishment to them. In other respects crime decreased throughout the frontier tracts, and was well dealt with. Substantial progress was made in the construction of roads and bridges, and forests are claiming attention.

Condition of the people.

5. The war was not without its effect on the Province, nor could the season compare with the prosperous season of 1913-14. Crops were indifferent, labour scarce and prices poor; and the people generally suffered a diminution of income.

The year was a healthy one, and a comparative freedom from epidemic diseases was enjoyed.

(2) The Administration of the Land.

Realization of the land revenue.

6. Though not without some gratifying features, the year ran no easy course for either the cultivator or the Government. Widespread floods in both Upper and Lower Burma and untimely droughts in Upper Burma took heavy toll of the

crops nullifying extensions of cultivation, and but for an enhancement of rates in some Districts on resettlement, the land revenue demand, which actually increased by Rs. 1·90 lakh, would have shrunk to an appreciable extent. The damage inflicted by the caprices of an untoward season may be gauged by the rise in the amount of land revenue remitted from just over Rs. 2 lakhs in the previous year to close on Rs. 8 lakhs. The added misfortune of the war, which disorganised markets and prices, also introduced difficulties in the collection of the revenue; there was a large increase in the number of coercive processes issued for the recovery of the revenue and the actual amount of land revenue collected fell by nearly Rs. 4½ lakhs.

Surveys.

7. Topographical survey operations were conducted during the year by Imperial agency in the Myitkyina, Katha and Mandalay Districts. The Provincial Land Records Department carried out the demarcation and extension survey of three tracts of land in the Myaungmya, Henzada and Hanthawaddy Districts, and revision surveys in the Myaungmya and Thatôn Districts. Progress was made with the survey of several towns; Bassein Town was resurveyed and the revision survey in Rangoon was concluded. Minor surveys of fisheries, and of lands leased for cultivation and mining, were also executed.

Settlements.

8. Settlement operations were carried out by six parties and extended to ten Districts. Four settlements were completed, three were in progress, and new settlements were commenced in four Districts. The settlements of the Bassein and Toungoo Districts, producing an enhancement of rates amounting to Rs. 30·26 per cent., were sanctioned during the year.

Land Records.

9. In the majority of Districts the rural area under supplementary survey remained unchanged, but the formation of two fuel reserves in the Pakôkku, and of an elephant grazing ground in the Yamèthin District, though partly counterbalanced by the gains accruing from a survey in the Kyaukpyu District, reduced the total area by 8 square miles. The introduction of new settlement rates in several Districts led to an increase of over Rs. 4 lakhs in rural assessments. The urban area continued to expand. Expenditure on supplementary survey was slightly more than in the previous year, and the cost of the department calculated on an assessment basis slightly less. The number of survey schools remained unchanged, with a practically identical number of pupils. The results obtained at the Syndicate examinations showed an improvement on the previous year.

Transfers of land.

10. The statistics of land transactions for the year are perplexing, and falsify expectations based on the adverse conditions of the year. In both Lower and Upper Burma the total area sold decreased, while the area mortgaged increased; the area redeemed increased in Lower Burma but decreased in Upper Burma; both the sale and the mortgage rate rose in Lower Burma, but a rise in the sale rate in Upper Burma was accompanied by a considerable fall in the mortgage rate. In Upper Burma there are indications that the people generally suffered from the scarcity of money, but in Lower Burma, although the year with its indifferent crop, poor prices at the beginning of the season and general shrinkage of credit

owing to the war probably bore hardly on the small cultivator, the large land-owners and paddy traders were able to weather the storm and finally reach the haven of high prices ruling at the end of the year. The statistics on the whole give no cause for apprehending that land as an investment is losing in popularity.

Waste lands.

11. The issue of grants and leases for paddy and similar cultivation was again curtailed, and there was a further large decrease of 40 per cent. in the area of land granted or leased. Leases were issued in the special areas in the Hanthawaddy and Insein Districts, in the Toungoo District for cotton cultivation, in newly-formed accretions from the sea in the Amherst District and in the tract irrigated by the Môn canals in the Minbu District. The area granted for rubber cultivation was insignificant, and in the Thatôn District considerable areas which had been leased for it in previous years were surrendered.

Revenue and rent-paying classes.

12. The statistics for the year reveal practically no change in the respective positions of peasant-proprietors and absentee landlords. The former hold 85·3 per cent. of the total occupied area. In Upper Burma the proportion of land held by non-agriculturists is in most Districts small; in Lower Burma the non-agriculturist landowner is prominent in several Districts where land is purchased in order to control supplies of paddy. Tenancies at full rents decreased, and rental values declined in sympathy with the price of paddy. The numbers of the settled tenant class show a slight increase.

(3) Protection.

Legislation.

13. Three bills were passed into law by the Legislative Council of Burma during the year. The Burma Village Amendment Act of 1914 gives greater power to control dangerous weapons at *pwès*; the Burma Outports Act provides additional sources of revenue for the minor ports of Burma; and the Burma Canal Amendment Act is designed to promote co-operation among cultivators in erecting and maintaining private embankments for the reclamation and protection of land. No Regulations affecting Burma were enacted, but certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act were extended to Upper Burma.

Police.

14. The war increased Civil Police work, and in some localities the Burman Civil Police carried out duties that had hitherto been performed by the Military Police; but they undertook the extra duties thrown on them with zeal and performed them with efficiency. The sanctioned strength of the force was increased by 88 officers and men, but difficulty in the recruitment of Burmans was again experienced, and the actual strength shows an increased shortage; in some Districts it was even found necessary to increase temporarily the proportion of Indian constables employed. The conduct and discipline of the force remained satisfactory, a pleasing feature of the year being the striking reduction, from an already small total in the previous year, in the number of acts of violence against the public. The housing of the force is inadequate, but progress was made in the construction of quarters and police buildings, and as a first step to a comprehensive scheme of amelioration, a survey report on all police buildings was

commenced; the improvement of the overcrowded and insanitary conditions of the police lock-ups throughout the Province was also taken in hand. The volume of crime is large, and it is pointed out that in the last fifteen years while population has risen by 15 per cent., serious crime has risen by 26 per cent., although the strength of the police force has more than kept up with the increase of population. There was a slight decrease of cognizable cases during the year and the fall in violent crime that began in the preceding was accentuated in the present year. A gratifying fall in offences in which fire-arms were used may be ascribed to the measures taken to obtain a better control over guns and ammunition in Rangoon Town and the adjoining Districts. As usual the bulk of the crime occurred in Lower Burma, and particularly in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions. In sympathy with the decrease in violent crime there was a noteworthy decrease in cattle theft. Several commendable pieces of work by the police are reported, the most noteworthy, perhaps, being the successful action that nipped in the bud an incipient rebellion in the Kyaikto Subdivision. Activity was displayed in prosecutions under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure, attributable mainly to the outbreak of the war, which brought unrest among the criminal portion of the population; and beneficial results are said to have flowed from the action taken. Figures collected during the year, though not altogether reliable, reveal to what a great extent serious crime is the outcome of drink. The additional punitive police, wherever imposed, thoroughly justified their existence. Efforts were made during the year to improve the effectiveness of the surveillance of criminals, and the working of the system of beat patrols. Gambling, in the stress of other work, would seem to have been somewhat neglected, but the work under the Opium Law was good.

A splendid spirit was shown by the men of the Military Police at the outbreak of the war; and before the end of the year over 1,200 volunteers with their officers had left for active service in Europe. One new battalion of Military Police was raised during the year for the recently-formed District of Putao; but a reduction was effected elsewhere by the amalgamation of some of the older battalions. The conduct of the force maintained its usual high level, but the year was an unhealthy one, and most of the battalions suffered severely from malaria. The resources of the force were greatly taxed by the additional demands on it that the war entailed, but all calls were creditably met.

The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police was increased, but there was a considerable shortage in the actual strength mainly owing to the difficulty of obtaining good Indian recruits. This combined with the great amount of extra work caused by the war is said to have affected the health of the force. Its conduct was on the whole good, and the results of its work during the year were satisfactory. A substantial decrease in the crime it had to deal with was accompanied by better detection, and in a year, which in its latter end was marked by abnormal and trying conditions, no case of rioting or disturbance occurred.

Village Administration.

15. Village Administration was marked by a further decrease in the number of headmen, consequent on the amalgamation of small charges, whenever a suitable opportunity offered itself. The process of breaking up *myothugyi*ships and *taikthugyi*ships continued. Revision of the territorial jurisdictions of headmen

was carried out, where necessary, and the work of defining and demarcating boundaries was pushed on in the Bhamo and Upper Chindwin Districts. A large number of headmen were invested with special civil and criminal powers. The amount of the fines inflicted by village headmen decreased by nearly Rs. 20,000; but, with the exception of the Yamèthin District, their work in this respect is said to have been satisfactory throughout the Province. The work of headmen in connection with the collection of the revenue maintained its usual high standard, and their relations with the police continued to be cordial. The popularity of the post of headman is generally testified to, and all indications go to show that the conduct of headmen in the discharge of their duties is steadily improving. Fines on village-tracts decreased appreciably, and numerous instances are reported of courageous resistance on the part of villagers to dacoits and assistance in the maintenance of law and order. The Burma Village Act, 1907, was amended during the year with a view to controlling the introduction of dangerous weapons into *pwès*.

Criminal Justice.

16. An addition was made to the courts of the Province by the creation of a new Sessions Division, called the Thàrrawaddy Division. The number of cases before the courts of original jurisdiction rose both in Lower and Upper Burma, but the number of persons brought to trial fell. There was a welcome decrease in Lower Burma of offences under the Indian Penal Code, revealing a real and substantial reduction of serious crime in that part of the Province. In Upper Burma the figures for serious crime remained more or less constant, and the increase in the total number of offences reported is explained by the activity displayed in prosecutions under the Municipal Act. The number of complaints summarily dismissed rose in both portions of the Province. More persons were punished than in 1913 and whippings increased. A greater use was made of the preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code, but the different Districts display small uniformity in their application of them. There was a disappointing reduction in the number of first offenders' cases dealt with under section 562 of the Code, and the failure to deal judiciously with first offenders is the subject of comment both by the Judges of the Chief Court and the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma. The amount of fines imposed fell in Lower but rose in Upper Burma. The average duration of cases improved in both portions of the Province. The number of appeals preferred against convictions, falling in Lower but rising in Upper Burma, present no striking differences, and there are but slight changes in the percentages of confirmation and duration.

Prisons.

17. The total number of prisoners confined in the jails of the Province increased and attained the record figure of 17,654, but the daily average declined. More accommodation was provided and further extensions are in hand. The number of juvenile prisoners admitted into jail decreased, but the percentage of re-convicted prisoners rose slightly. There was again a marked fall in the offences committed by convicts against jail discipline; in two years the fall has been no less than 22·59 per cent. The total expenditure of the department decreased slightly, but the net cost of maintenance per head has risen owing to the war which has depressed the sale of articles manufactured in the jails. The general health of the prisoners has remained fairly satisfactory, the figures for

sickness and death being more or less constant with those of 1913. The conduct of the juvenile prisoners in the Meiktila jail continued to be good, and the manual training scheme has given encouraging results. This scheme has also been attended with good results in the other jails in which it has been introduced.

Civil Justice.

18. The figures of civil suits instituted during the year show no violent fluctuations from those in 1913, and there is no tangible evidence of the influence of the war on litigation. The general increase in the number of suits instituted is negligible, and though there has been a marked rise in money suits, especially in Rangoon, there has been a counterbalancing fall in suits relating to immoveable property. The general average duration of contested suits both in Upper and Lower Burma remains much the same as in the previous year. The number of imprisonments for debt is almost identical with that of the preceding year. Applications under the Provincial Insolvency Act increased slightly, but though in Upper Burma the figures indicate a small improvement in the working of the Act, the enactment is said to be unsuited to a large portion of the Province. The number of appeals in Lower Burma fell and in Upper Burma rose insignificantly. The average duration shows small change in Lower Burma, but a striking decrease in Upper Burma. The volume of work increased slightly in the Chief Court and considerably in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner. Much progress was made in both these courts in clearing off arrears.

Registration.

19. Certain sections of the Transfer of Property Act were extended to Upper Burma during the year. Two new registration offices were opened. Compulsory registrations increased both in number and value, the figure for documents being the highest on record, and the figure for value being only overtopped by the figure of the year 1906. The financial and economic conditions occasioned by the war, however, caused a decline in the number and value of instruments of sale. On the other hand instruments of mortgage increased largely, both in number and value; the value was the highest on record and exceeded the best hitherto recorded by Rs. 17 lakhs.

Joint stock companies.

20. The end of the year saw 114 joint stock companies operating. But company promoting during the year was at a low ebb, for, while 16 joint stock companies with a total authorized capital of Rs. 73·75 lakhs were wound up, only 3 new companies with a total authorized capital of Rs. 11·50 lakhs were floated. No new mining company was floated, but the aggregate capital of mining companies in the Province still represents more than half the total capital of all joint stock companies. Of the companies established outside British India, 116 filed their papers during the year.

Rangoon Municipality.

21. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality increased by nearly Rs. 1½ lakh to Rs. 43·53 lakhs, and expenditure fell by Rs. 46,000 to Rs. 43·93 lakhs, expenditure thus still slightly exceeding receipts. A more equitable distribution of the burden of taxation was introduced in the latter half of the year by the enhancement of the service taxes and the reduction of the general tax on houses and land, from which had been met for many years the deficit incurred by the under-assessment of the service-taxes. But the change was not designed to

ncrease taxation, and the increase in the Municipality's income must be sought for in the revision of assessments and the taxation of new properties carried out during the year. The most important measure introduced by the Committee during the year was the revision of the election rules; under the new rules the term of office of members is extended from two to three years. The different public services came in for attention: a beginning was made with the new reservoir scheme, the fire brigade was maintained in a state of efficiency, sewerage was extended, and improvements were effected in the markets. Unfortunately the war interfered with the road programme which had to be curtailed, and interrupted the negotiations that were proceeding with the contracting company with a view to the improvement of the street-lighting, and which it was agreed to hold in abeyance till the end of the war. In the question of the milk-supply it was decided to secure and exercise control over it without further delay, so far as the existing provisions of the Municipal Act allowed. The town suffered less from fires than in the previous year. Notifiable diseases gave little trouble with the exception of plague which, as throughout the rest of the Province, worsened. The birth-rate of the town rose slightly to 18·56 and the death-rate to 31·86 per mille, but infantile mortality, failing to maintain the improvement visible in 1913, rose to the appallingly high figure of 294·22 per mille. A society for the prevention of infantile mortality was formed during the year, and a small subvention granted it after the close of the year testified to the Local Government's interest and sympathy in the matter.

Minor Municipalities.

22. The number of other Municipalities remained the same. The amount raised by taxation in them increased by about a lakh of rupees. A few new imposts were levied, fresh sources of income being tapped at Akyab and Paungdè by a tax on motor vehicles and at Tavoy by a tax on bicycles. Assessments were revised in some of the Municipalities, and the rates of service-taxes in some others. Public health was on the whole better than in the preceding year. Further large allotments from the Imperial grants at the disposal of the Local Government for urban sanitary improvements were again made to various Municipalities, and allowed of a continued activity on sanitary schemes, water-works, drainage, conservancy, markets, and hospitals, all coming in for a large share of attention. Two pleasing cases of private munificence are reported from Sagaing and Pyapòn: in the former a maternity ward of four beds was presented to the Municipality by a member of the Committee, and in the latter two gentlemen gave large donations towards the supply of electric power to the Hospital; the times offer no fairer field for the practice of charitable benevolence than the medical needs of the Province. Expenditure on public instruction increased. There were some serious embezzlements of Municipal funds during the year and a proposal is on foot for a more frequent audit of Municipal accounts.

There was no change in the number of Notified Areas. Here too substantial grants were made by the Local Government for sanitary improvements.

Military.

23. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of the Province was 7,609 officers and men, of whom 2,057 were Europeans. No important military works were undertaken. The total strength of the volunteer forces rose during the year by over one thousand, and the number of efficients by over fifteen

hundred. A few minor changes in internal organisation were introduced. The Burma Chamber of Commerce proposed during the year compulsory military service for all British-born and Colonial British subjects in India, and the matter was referred to the Imperial Government.

Marine.

24. The expenditure on light-houses and light-ships increased, but the receipts from Coast Light dues fell. Work on the improvements to the Alguada Reef light-house was continued, but a lack of steam waftage for materials delayed construction. Improvements were also carried out at, and clock-work machines were installed in, some of the other light-houses.

The war affected the receipts of the Rangoon Port Trust, and expenditure increased, but in spite of difficult circumstances the Commissioners of the Port were able to show at the close of the year a gross surplus of over four lakhs of rupees on the year's working. The accounts of the river training scheme which had been completed in the previous year were finally closed, and showed that the work had been accomplished at a cost of nearly Rs. 12 lakhs less than had been anticipated, the actual cost of construction being Rs. 138 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 150 lakhs. Every expectation with regard to the success of the scheme appears to have been fulfilled. The maintenance of a permanent deep water channel at the entrance of the harbour again claimed attention, and dredging and surveys were carried out. The question of the control of the Pilot Service was advanced a step, and the consolidation of the Rangoon Port Act is under consideration.

Commercial Marine.

25. Shipping, both in the foreign and coasting trade, was seriously affected by the war. The total number of ships entering and clearing in the ports of the Province fell by over 1,000, with a consequent decline in tonnage of about two million tons. In Rangoon, which claims the bulk of the traffic, the total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the port was 17·99 per cent. less than in 1913-14, and was the lowest recorded since 1908-09. Sailing craft in the coasting trade found their opportunity in the abnormal conditions of the year, but even so their total tonnage too decreased. The commencement of the year had seen the freight market weak, but the outbreak of war produced a great change; ships were requisitioned by Government for trooping and other purposes, and the German and Austrian mercantile fleets disappeared from view; rates rose rapidly and considerably, and at the end of the year freights stood at 80 shillings per ton as against an average rate of 25·9 shillings in the four preceding years. Of the vessels that entered the ports of the Province during the year, 77·49 per cent. flew British colours, as against 73·32 per cent. in the previous year. Japan heads the list of foreign countries sending ships to the Province, and Norway stepped into the shoes of Germany and Austria.

(4) Production and Distribution.

Agriculture.

26. The development of the Agricultural Department continued apace. The appointment of a third Deputy Director was sanctioned, and the number of District agriculturists increased. A new experimental station was opened at Yawnghwe, and work was continued at the existing stations; energies were mainly devoted to paddy, but experimental work on cotton, sesamum, sugarcane,

wheat, pulse crops, and castor was undertaken. Valuable studies and experiments were again made in the chemical, botanical and entomological branches. In particular a systematic examination of the prussic acid content of Burma beans was commenced. Public interest in the department is on the increase.

There was no change in the superior staff of the Veterinary Department, and the number of the subordinate staff increased but slightly. The record of the Veterinary School at Insein was again satisfactory. The better equipment of the school was proceeded with; some subsidiary buildings were erected, and the construction of a laboratory was sanctioned.

Stock and cattle disease.

27. The year was a good one for live stock, and the Province enjoyed immunity from cattle disease to a degree unknown in previous years. Rinderpest proved as usual the most formidable scourge, but its ravages were confined within comparatively reasonable limits except in the Shan States, where it is said to have been widely prevalent and to have caused heavy loss. Small outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and of anthrax occurred, but nowhere assumed severe epidemic form. Preventive inoculation against rinderpest, practised in eight Districts and attended as usual with good results, compulsory reporting and careful segregation, all contributed no doubt to check disease.

Weather and crops.

28. The harvests of the year were disappointing. The year opened auspiciously, but drought in parts of the dry zone in Upper Burma, and excessive and untimely rains in Lower Burma marked its progress. The occupied area of the Province further expanded, though at a slower rate than in the previous year, and is now well over 18 million acres; but drought and floods caused failures over a larger area. Areas under rice, beans, groundnut and early sesamum expanded, but contracted under late sesamum, millet, cotton and tobacco. The area under sugarcane remained stationary, but rubber cultivation continued to expand. The season with some exceptions favoured irrigation, and the area irrigated increased by over 60,000 acres.

Outturns and prices.

29. The outturn of rice was affected by the unfavourable season, and the yield fell to 81 per cent. of normal. The final estimate, conforming with the original estimate, placed the exportable surplus at 100,000 tons less than in the previous year. Credit was stopped, loans were called in, and the closing of the Austrian and German markets, the temporary shutting down of German-owned mills and the shortage of tonnage with its concomitant rise in freights so depressed the market, that prices receded to the level they occupied some ten years ago. There was a recovery, however, towards the end of the season and Rangoon prices were at the close of the year above normal. Among other crops, the estimated outturn of groundnut increased, but cotton, millet, beans, and sesamum all contracted. The cotton market was thoroughly disorganised, and the dislocation of commerce in France reacted on the prices of groundnut. On the other hand there was a large demand from Europe for beans, and high prices were realized for this crop.

Agricultural loans.

30. The advances made to cultivators under the Agriculturists' Loans Act increased by over Rs. 1½ lakhs, but repayments, reflecting the adverse conditions

of the year, decreased by over Rs. 2 lakhs, the percentage of repayment falling from 87 to 70. Suspensions of payment were more general and for larger amounts, and the total amount overdue at the end of the year was double the amount at the close of the previous year. The amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act was small.

Co-operation.

31. In spite of a policy aiming at consolidation rather than expansion, the number of co-operative rural credit societies and guaranteeing unions increased, and financial results indicate that the co-operative movement in the Province is making steady headway. The Central Bank in Mandalay demonstrated the soundness of its position during the crisis that followed the outbreak of the war by retaining sufficient liquid assets to meet all liabilities, and at the same time supplying the necessary funds to its affiliated societies for the continuance of business. The sanction of the Secretary of State to a limited guarantee of the Cattle Reinsurance Scheme was received during the year. Co-operative sale societies and urban credit societies failed to share in the general advance; the former have been hampered by the failure to come to terms with the Rangoon millers. A promising start was made with the colonization on a co-operative basis of the Kadônbaw waste area in the Hanthawaddy District. The establishment of a successful colony on co-operative lines in Lower Burma may help to popularize the movement in that part of the Province, where the introduction of co-operative methods presents greater difficulties than in Upper Burma.

Horticulture.

32. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon saw a slight decrease in its membership during the year. Its accounts show a small loss on the year's working, but the closing balance was larger. The Annual Flower Show was held as usual and the exhibits are said to have been above the average.

Forests.

33. The total area covered by reserved forests in the Province increased by 907 square miles and now measures 28,239 square miles; the area of unclassed forests is estimated to be 114,127 square miles, of which however 8 per cent. is reported to be without forest growth. An area of 891 square miles of new forests was finally settled during the year; working-plans covering an area of 957 square miles were sanctioned, and plans covering 2,160 square miles were in course of preparation. Offences against the Forest Act were somewhat fewer than in the previous year. The area under fire protection was further reduced. The timber trade was severely hit by the war, and though the extraction of teak during the year was steady and shows but little change as compared with the previous year, a lessened extraction of other timber reflects the restricted state of the market.

Mines and quarries.

34. Mining received a set-back. Applications for prospecting licenses decreased and only three mining leases were granted in the Province. The search for wolfram and tin in the Tavoy and Mergui Districts though still actively prosecuted failed to lead to any striking development. The industry is handicapped by lack of capital, and the fall in prices due to the war emphasised its dependance on financial aid from outside the Province. There were however signs of a revival towards the end of the year, when the United Kingdom, where plant

for treating the ore had been set up since the outbreak of the war, began purchasing. The output of petroleum decreased slightly and was again yielded chiefly by the Magwe and Myingyan Districts, in which lie the Yenangyaung and Singu oil-fields. The future of the other oil-producing Districts is still uncertain. The production of gold in the Province is small, and the war destroyed the market for rubies. On the other hand the extraction of leadslag and silver-lead ore in the Northern Shan States shows a remarkable development. The output of jade lost in value what it gained in quantity, and as in previous years quarry stone was extracted in large quantities for public purposes.

Manufactures and factories.

35. The bulk of the indigenous population is agricultural, and manufacturing industries draw their supplies of labour mainly from the immigrant Indian population. No new industries were established during the year, and the leading industries, rice-milling, saw-milling, petroleum-refining and the transport industries maintained their positions. The number of operatives employed by the various industries shows a small increase. The introduction of co-operative and scientific measures into the silk-weaving industry at Mandalay is said to have had beneficent results, but other indigenous industries present no unusual features of interest. The health of the operatives is said to have been on the whole good, and the sanitary conditions of factories generally compare favourably with the sanitary conditions obtaining in the poorer quarters of towns. Attention was again paid to the question of fencing machinery, and efforts were made to apply the provisions of the Factories Act with greater strictness.

Maritime trade.

36. The war seriously affected the maritime trade of the Province, and the volume of the total trade declined by close on 25 per cent. In the foreign trade both exports and imports fell heavily, while in the Indian trade a substantial rise in exports was accompanied by a heavy fall in imports. The coasting trade also declined. The decrease in the total value of imports and exports embraced nearly all the most important commodities, and the articles that show increases are few and far between. The export trade in rice suffered temporarily from the loss of the German and Austrian markets, but fresh countries came in during the year as buyers, and India took a larger amount than in the previous year. More serious was the scarcity of tonnage, and it is to this chiefly that the arrested increase in the trade is attributed. In volume it was still higher than in 1911-12 and 1912-13, and represented 63 per cent. of the total merchandise exported from the Province. Curtailment of markets and other effects of the war brought about a decrease in the trade of teak-wood and hides, and a virtual extinction of the trade in groundnuts; but mineral oils showed steady progress and touched record figures. The war interfered with the movement of treasure, and the trade balance moved in favour of the Province to 14 crores. The United Kingdom and the British Empire profited relatively by the abnormal conditions of the year, and their share of the trade of the Province improved both in imports and exports. On the other hand the share of Germany, relegated to the first five months of the year, declined by over 50 per cent. As usual Rangoon absorbed the greater part of the trade of the country, the eight minor ports of the Province accounting for less than a fifth between them.

37. The total value of the transfrontier trade shows an increase in spite of the economic crisis and dislocation caused by the war, a small fall in imports being more than counterbalanced by a rise in exports. The value of the trade with Western China increased. Trade with the Southern Shan States declined, and the increased trade with the Northern Shan States was mainly due to the activity of a European mining company. In the unadministered Kachin country the opening up of the new Putao District led to a great increase in trade, but Siam and Karenni were both affected by the adverse conditions ruling in this Province. Trans-frontier trade.

38. The expenditure of the Public Works Department again increased very considerably by over Rs. 20 lakhs on the expenditure of the previous year, which itself was the highest recorded for many years. The total grant assigned to the department included funds granted by the Imperial Government for various purposes. Work on roads was active, and though the length of metalled road in the Province remained practically unchanged, large sums from the special Imperial contribution towards the improvement of communications were spent in improving existing roads, chiefly by the substitution of bridges built of a durable material for the old timber bridges, now rapidly falling to pieces. The construction of a new road from Myitkyina to Putao was pushed on with energy, and other important roads were also under construction in several Districts. Good progress was made with the building of the Customs House and the Telegraph Office in Rangoon, which are classed as Imperial works, while expenditure on civil provincial buildings increased by close on Rs. 5 lakhs, work being in progress on numerous schools, court-houses, jails, hospitals and police buildings throughout the Province. Various other works, marine and sanitary, were also under way. Public Works—Roads and Buildings.

39. During the year 47·25 miles of new line were thrown open to traffic on the Southern Shan States Railway, which has now reached Aungban. This addition brings the total length of open railway line in the Province to close on 1,600 miles. No other construction is at present in hand, but the examination of various schemes was continued. The question of railway communication between Burma and India was again considered, and to aid in the final selection of a ro ute, a survey of the coastal route was ordered. Only one accident causing loss of human life was reported during the year, but floods as usual caused damage. The conditions of the year told adversely on the traffic of the railway; passenger traffic declined by over 1½ millions, and the net profits were down by Rs. 14·84 lakhs. Railways and tramways.

The passenger traffic on the electric tramways in Rangoon and Mandalay decreased, with a consequent fall in the receipts of the two companies working them. Progress was made with the construction of the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway, but work was at a standstill on the Mandalay-Madaya Light Railway.

40. A variable season and floods affected prejudicially the working of the principal systems of irrigation in the Province. Heavy expenditure on the reconstruction of headworks washed away in the previous year swept away profits on the Mandalay Canal, and floods caused damage to both the Môn Canal in the Minbu District and to the Shwebo Canal. The area irrigated from all these works decreased, and the return on the total capital outlay fell from 4·09 per cent. to 1·31 per cent. In the minor systems which are fed by local drainage the irrigated Irrigation and navigation works.

area increased, but here also expenditure on repairs necessitated by damage done by floods affected revenue detrimentally, several Districts showing a deficit on the year's working. Work on the Ye-u Canal was still in progress during the year, but was hampered by a destructive flood on the Mu river. Embankments again yielded an increased revenue.

The working of the navigation canals resulted in a heavy deficit for the year. The weed known as the water hyacinth impeded traffic on the Pegu-Sittang Canal, as elsewhere throughout the waterways of Lower Burma, and the encroachment of the sea to within striking distance of the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal renders likely the abandonment of this canal in the near future. The scheme for the improvement of the Twante Canal was pushed on during the year, and the capital outlay on the project up to the end of the year amounted to nearly Rs. 60 lakhs.

(5) Finance.

Provincial Financial Settlement.

41. There was no change during the year in the Provincial Settlement regulating the financial relations of the Imperial and Provincial Governments.

Gross revenue and expenditure.

42. The war and a bad season set their mark clearly on the finances of the year. Total receipts, classed as Imperial and Provincial, fell by Rs. 96·92 lakhs to Rs. 907·20 lakhs, of which under the terms of the Settlement Rs. 356·99 lakhs were credited to Imperial Funds and Rs. 550·21 lakhs to Provincial Funds, these amounts being short of the amounts credited in the previous year by Rs. 85·68 lakhs and Rs. 11·24 lakhs respectively. The combined expenditure also rose by Rs. 51·95 lakhs to Rs. 673·88 lakhs, of which Rs. 77·56 lakhs was on Imperial and Rs. 596·32 lakhs on Provincial account. In Municipal and District Funds the fluctuations were small, but in other Local Funds receipts show a decrease of Rs. 46·01 lakhs, hardly compensated for by a decrease of Rs. 4·62 lakhs in expenditure.

Land Revenue.

43. Gross receipts under the head Land Revenue for the year ending the 31st March 1915 show a decrease of Rs. 16·95 lakhs to Rs. 446·07 lakhs. Under the adjustment provided by the Provincial Settlement, Rs. 166·03 lakhs of this are credited to Imperial and Rs. 280·04 lakhs to Provincial Funds, the decrease in either case being Rs. 6·26 lakhs and Rs. 10·74 lakhs. Land Revenue proper, suffering from the effects of the war and an indifferent season, fell by nearly Rs. 4½ lakhs, and the minor sources of revenue under this head, such as capitation tax in Lower Burma and royalties on minerals, including petrolem, were similarly afflicted and shrank to a certain extent. On the other hand there were increased receipts from the *thathameda*-tax in Upper Burma and from fisheries.

Customs.

44. The receipts under the Imperial head Customs fell by no less than Rs. 65·65 lakhs and mirror the dislocation of trade caused by the war. Both exports and imports fell heavily. The expenditure fell slightly to Rs. 6·36 lakhs leaving a net revenue of Rs. 114·42 lakhs, as against a net revenue of Rs. 179·98 lakhs in the previous year.

45. The rates of excise-duty levied on salt manufacture were enhanced during the year. The number of manufacture licenses decreased, both in the Districts under the system of direct taxation, and in the Districts where the system of composition duty is in force. The output in consequence fell considerably. Stimulated by the high prices obtaining for salt on the cessation of supplies from Germany owing to the outbreak of the war, imports of foreign salt increased enormously by over 30 per cent., Spain and Egypt sending largely increased supplies. The imports from the United Kingdom were interfered with by the war and fell to a certain extent. The total revenue derived from salt and salted fish rose by over a lakh of rupees. Salt.

46. The Excise revenue shows a rise in gross receipts for the year of over Rs. 5 lakhs and amounted to Rs. 92·39 lakhs. The outstanding feature was the realization of Rs. 7½ lakhs more revenue from liquor, in spite of a fall in consumption following the outbreak of the war. Fears of a loss of trade during the continuance of the war led to the abandonment of numerous licenses, which were resold at a loss of Rs. 1¼ lakhs; but these fears proved exaggerated. Imports of foreign liquor decreased and issues of country spirit from the distilleries and bonded warehouses to licensed shops were smaller. Local manufactures of foreign liquor and spirit profited by a shortage in foreign supplies. The license fees given for the sale of rice beers show a large increase of Rs. 4½ lakhs; analyses made during the year prove that these beers are a wholesome beverage, and they are apparently growing in popular favour. The contract distillery system was not further extended during the year, and the number of outstills remained unchanged. The only change of importance in the number of liquor licenses issued was a reduction of 36 licenses for the retail sale of *tari*. The revenue derived from opium declined by Rs. 2¼ lakhs. The decrease in the consumption of Government opium, to which it is due, indicates the continued success of the present opium policy which aims at preventing the illicit demand for the drug from being supplied from the opium issued to the licensed shops. There was a further fall in the number of registered Burman consumers, but there are no indications of any material suppression of the smuggling of opium into the Province, and the illicit trade in opium from India into Burma would seem to have continued on much the same scale as in the previous year. Supplies of cocaine, which is generally imported from Germany, were cut off by the war, and it is presumed that the cocaine habit has received a check. The morphia habit is said not to be spreading. Excise.

The expenditure of the conjoint Excise and Salt establishments during the year was Rs. 15·21 lakhs, of which 3⅜ per cent. is debitable to the Imperial head Salt.

47. The improvement noticed in the previous year in the Stamp Revenue was not maintained. Though the receipts under the Court-fees Act rose by one lakh of rupees, the receipts under the Stamp Act declined by Rs. 3 lakhs, and the combined receipts under both Acts were the lowest for the past ten years. The receipts are said to have been affected in various ways by the outbreak of the war. Stamps.

48. The tax on income yielded an increase of 10 per cent., the total receipts for the Province amounting to Rs. 25 lakhs. The major portion Assessed Taxes.

of the tax is collected in Rangoon, and increased receipts from the tax on profits of companies swelled collections there by close on Rs. 2 lakhs. Outside Rangoon, however, some of the Districts began to feel the effects of the war and collections in them receded, if very slightly. The tax on private salaries produced more revenue, but the number of assessees paying on them fell for the first time since 1903-04. The percentage of expenditure to receipts is the lowest figure for the last twenty years.

Provincial revenue and finance.

49. The Provincial receipts for the year fell by Rs. 11·24 lakhs to Rs. 550·21 lakhs. Imperial assignments to Provincial Funds were larger by Rs. 15¾ lakhs, and there were increased receipts from Excise and Assessed Taxes, which have not felt as yet the full effects of the war. Police and Education also show increases. But the effects of the war and of the poor season are only too visible in the principal branches of revenue, Land Revenue falling by Rs. 10·74 lakhs, Forests by Rs. 18·64 lakhs and Stamps by Rs. 95,413, while heavy decreases are also shown under numerous other heads. Provincial expenditure increased by Rs. 44·01 lakhs to Rs. 596·32 lakhs, of which Civil Works carried out by the Public Works Department accounted for Rs. 17·37 lakhs. An increase of Rs. 4·68 lakhs under the head Political was partly occasioned by the administration of the new Putao District, and there were also large increases under the heads Medical and Education.

Forests.

50. The receipts of the Forest Department in the financial accounts for the year ending the 31st March 1915 show a decrease of Rs. 18·64 lakhs, and in the departmental report covering the year ending the 30th June 1915 a decrease of Rs. 23·62 lakhs. The war disorganised the timber market, and extraction fell heavily. Expenditure rose slightly to Rs. 46·89 lakhs, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 43·58 lakhs.

Local Funds.

51. Larger contributions from provincial revenues raised the receipts of the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma to Rs. 34·83 lakhs, and thus counteracted a fall in the receipts from the cess on land revenue, which is the Funds' main permanent source of supply. The expenditure of the Funds increased considerably to Rs. 36·28 lakhs as a result of the contributions received and accumulations of cash. In Upper Burma the income of the District Funds was also swollen by contributions from provincial revenues to Rs. 12·53 lakhs, but the expenditure, remaining more or less unchanged, fell short of this by some Rs. 4 lakhs. All these funds were solvent and in a satisfactory position at the end of the year. In all the seven Cantonment Funds except one, and in ten out of the nineteen Town Funds, expenditure exceeded receipts; but though the closing balances were generally lower, each fund closed the year with a credit balance. With the exception of the Port Fund of Moulmein, which after the outbreak of the war found itself in difficulties and had to adopt special remedial measures, and of the Rangoon Pilot Fund, which is reported to be working at a loss, the position of the various Port Funds and Pilot Funds is satisfactory.

Municipal finance.

52. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality rose by nearly Rs. 1½ lakhs to Rs. 43·53 lakhs; but although expenditure also fell by Rs. 46,000, it still

exceeded receipts by Rs. 45,000. The gross expenditure also exceeded the gross income and the closing balance fell by nearly Rs. 7 lakhs. The increase in the income was derived from the rates and taxes, and is ascribed partly to a revision of some assessments and partly to a re-adjustment of taxation. Miscellaneous receipts fell, influenced by the depression in trade. In expenditure a saving due to the curtailment of the road programme owing to the war was swallowed up by increases in other directions. The total indebtedness of the Municipality at the close of the year stood at Rs. 193·38 lakhs. No loan was raised during the year; one for Rs. 10¼ lakhs was offered, but, although oversubscribed, only attracted an average rate of tender short of the minimum rate of acceptance. In the Reclamation Fund, which is in low water, expenditure again exceeded receipts and the closing balance fell to Rs. 3·82 lakhs. In the other Municipalities the amount raised by taxation increased by one lakh of rupees, and large allotments by the Local Government swelled both receipts and expenditure. Loans were granted by Government to three of the Municipalities, and the total indebtedness of the minor Municipalities to Government rose slightly to Rs. 10·32 lakhs.

53. The average currency note circulation for the year was Rs. 412 lakhs, being less by Rs. 60 lakhs than in the previous year. The war dislocated finance and trade, and the decline began in August immediately on the outbreak of the war. At the close of the year the circulation was less by Rs. 110 lakhs than at the end of 1913·14. The bulk of the currency is formed of notes of the 10-rupee and 100-rupee denominations. Note circulation.

(6) Vital Statistics and Medical Services.

54. The area under registration remained unchanged. The birth-rate in the Province rose to 35·40 per mille, which compares favourably with the figure for the previous year, 32·61 per mille, and with the average figure for the last five years, 33·75 per mille. The death-rate decreased slightly to 24·13 per mille, the natural increase now being 11 per mille as against 8 per mille in the previous year. The urban birth-rate continues to fall much below the rural birth-rate, and though the rural death-rate fell one point during the year, the urban death-rate rose one. Infantile mortality dropped further to 216·36 per mille, but the registered infant deaths constitute 31·74 per cent. of all deaths in the Province. Societies similar to the Mandalay Society for the prevention of infantile mortality were established during the year at Rangoon and Akyab, and will, it is hoped, emulate the good work of the older society. Births and deaths.

The Province enjoyed comparative freedom from epidemic diseases. The mortality from cholera was reduced by more than 50 per cent.; the number of deaths from small-pox dwindled to an almost insignificant point, and there was also a sensible decline in malaria, especially in the Districts most afflicted by it during the last few preceding years.

55. On the other hand there was a recrudescence of plague. The death-rate rose from ·44 per mille to ·76, which is considerably in advance of the last five years' average of ·60 per mille. Rangoon, Mandalay, Bassein, Moulmein and Prome were the chief sufferers, but the infection was widespread, the Arakan Plague.

Division and the Districts of Mergui, Tavoy, Pakôkku and Minbu alone being free from it. The destruction of rats was continued in Rangoon, and inoculation throughout the Province, but the latter is said to be nowhere popular in Lower Burma.

Medical relief.

56. At the end of the year the number of hospitals and dispensaries in the Province stood at 272. Medical expenditure amounted to Rs. 19·83 lakhs showing an increase of Rs. 3·22 lakhs, of which a sum of over Rs. 2 lakhs was spent on the construction of hospitals and dispensaries. There was an increase in the number of patients treated, and the mortality among in-patients showed a further decline to 5·9 per cent. The percentage of Burmese patients to the total number of patients treated again declined, but a steady increase in the total indigenous population treated is apparent. The cadres of the Medical Services were increased. Steps were taken to ensure the proper equipment of the Pasteur Institute in Rangoon, then in course of construction. An increase in the number of stipendiary pupils at the Burma Government Medical School was sanctioned. The attendance at the Lunatic Asylums of Minbu and Rangoon increased slightly, while there was a marked drop in their death-rate from 16·50 per cent. in 1913 to 6·08 in 1914.

Sanitation.

57. The Divisional Sanitary Board was busy during the year in considering local sanitary schemes. The whole of the recurring grant of Rs. 6 lakhs made by the Government of India, together with the unspent balance from the previous year, was distributed among the Divisions of the Province for the furtherance of, urban sanitation. Of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 10½ lakhs from the same authority Rs. 1·89 lakh were distributed, the towns of Kalaw, Pyapôn, Minhla Bhamo, Bassein, Maymyo, Pakôkku, Salin, Shwebo, all receiving large allotments. The provision of a protected water-supply for many of the smaller towns in Upper and Lower Burma is a feature of the year. In all, schemes for a water-supply to 21 towns were under consideration. Other schemes related to the erection of bazaars, and to conservancy and surface drainage. The question of town-planning also received attention and legislative action with regard to it has been foreshadowed. In addition to the expenditure mentioned above Municipal and local bodies expended on sanitation Rs. 56½ lakhs out of an income of Rs. 191 lakhs.

Vaccination.

58. Owing to the freedom from small-pox of nearly every District in the Province throughout the year, the number of primary vaccinations and of re-vaccinations decreased considerably. Both operations show a slight decrease in the percentage of successful operations, and the protection afforded by vaccination in the Province fell by 3·31 to 33·02 per thousand of population. The number of infants vaccinated during the year was larger than in the previous year, but verification of the work by District Medical Officers was again unequal. The results obtained at the Vaccine Depôt at Meiktila were satisfactory. The new building for the Laboratory there was completed during the year.

(7) Instruction.

Education.

59. The encouragement given to education during the past few years again bore good results. Educational institutions and pupils under instruction increased

by 6·1 per cent. and 9·03 per cent., and though the figures for private schools are unreliable, the figures for public schools testify to the improvement that is being effected in the educational system of the Province. The increase is to be found mainly in the primary schools, and this is due to the efforts that have been made within the last two years to encourage the registration of monastic schools in certain Districts, though possibly the gains may prove ephemeral, if for want of funds the position won cannot be consolidated. Secondary schools increased in number and pupils, while the improvement in collegiate education surpassed even the great improvement noticed in the previous year. It is noteworthy that the number of students at the two colleges in the Province has doubled itself since 1912-13, and the foundation of a university for the Province, which is still under consideration, may be further expected to stimulate its growth. Technical schools though losing in number gained in pupils, and the Government School of Engineering at Insein among them in particular made good progress; a variety of measures have been successfully taken to overcome the unpopularity of this school with the Burmans, and they now constitute a majority in the engineering classes. Normal and European schools show an improvement in the number of the pupils attending them. There was an increase in Mahomedan schools, and in schools for special classes of the population, with a consequent increase in pupils. The committee appointed in the previous year to consider the subject of Mahomedan education in the Province presented its report during the year, and proposals based on it were formulated and accepted. Female education again made good progress and the percentage of females of school-going age undergoing instruction has now risen from just under 9 in 1912-13 to 12·66.

An ampler provision of funds has allowed of these improvements and expansion. The total expenditure on education during the year rose from Rs. 61·55 lakhs to Rs. 69·35 lakhs. Of this sum Rs. 11·99 lakhs were provided from Imperial Funds. Elementary education absorbed large sums and heavy expenditure was also incurred on buildings and equipment. The cadre of the Indian Educational Service in the Province was enlarged, and considerable additions were made to the ranks of the Subordinate Educational Service.

Literature and presses.

60. The book-trade, like other branches of trade, would seem to have suffered from the war, and publications were less numerous than in the previous year. Books on religion and kindred subjects, though mostly accounting for the decline, still form the bulk of the annual literary output. Confiscation of works of dubious propriety has dealt the Drama a heavy blow, and dramatic works dwindled to vanishing point. The majority of publications are written in Burmese. Printing presses again increased in number, though a few were suspended or closed under the Indian Press Act.

Arts and Sciences.

61. The art industries of the Province suffered as usual from competition with cheap European goods, and were moreover adversely affected by the war. The Annual Art Exhibition was held in Rangoon during the year and the exhibits showed improvement. A regular system of art scholarships for the Province was inaugurated.

(8) Archæology.

62. The post of Assistant Archæological Superintendent was created during the year. The compilation of the second part of the monograph on the Ananda temple was begun. Excavation and examination of inscriptions were continued in the neighbourhoods of Pegu and Prome, and valuable discoveries from a historical point of view were made at the Maungdi Pagoda and near Pakôkku. The preservation of ancient monuments as in the past engaged attention.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references, on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue, the Measures adopted for the Extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes, Lunatic Asylums, the Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist, the Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, and the Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1914; the Shan States, Chin Hills and the North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on the Working of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1914 to the close of June 1915. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on the 31st March 1915.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier for the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1915.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country. Area. Climate and Chief Staples.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary

For information on the foregoing subjects, a reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 18 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Form of Administration.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 19 to 38 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

The information in paragraph 38 under the head "Miscellaneous" is to some extent out-of-date. The paragraph has therefore been revised and is repeated with the necessary modifications.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Accounts Department is controlled by an Accountant-General assisted by two Deputy and five Assistant Accountants-General. The Postal and Telegraph Departments are now amalgamated and the local administration of

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both departments is in the hands of a single officer designated Postmaster-General and Director, Telegraph Engineering. Under him in the Postal Department are one Deputy Postmaster-General, one Postmaster and twelve Superintendents of Post Offices, and in the Telegraph Department, three Superintendents, two Assistant Superintendents and fourteen Deputy Superintendents.

Character of Land Tenures System of Survey and Settlement.

For information on the foregoing subject, a reference should be made to paragraphs 39 to 55 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

For information on this subject reference should be made to paragraphs 56 to 68 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

The information in paragraph 63 under the head "Mandalay Division" is to some extent out-of-date. The paragraph has therefore been revised and is repeated with the necessary modifications.

Mandalay Division.

2. The Mandalay Division, including Möng Mit State, with headquarters at Mandalay, contains 42,134 square miles with a population of 877,307. It is divided into the six Districts of Mandalay, Bhamo, Myitkyina, Ruby Mines, Katha and Putao. The Bhamo District was in 1895 divided into the two Districts of Bhamo and Myitkyina, and in the same year the Shwebo District was transferred from the Mandalay to the Sagaing Division. The Putao District was constituted with effect from the 1st August 1914 and consists of all that administered area situated in the basin of the Irrawaddy which lies north of the administrative boundary of the Myitkyina District. Its area is 9,658 square miles with an approximate population of 44,338. There are three Subdivisions in this District, *viz.*, Putao, Laza and Konglu. The Mandalay District consists of five Subdivisions and five Townships. Bhamo contains two Subdivisions and two Townships, and Myitkyina three Subdivisions and three Townships. The Katha District consists of the three Subdivisions of Katha, Wuntho and Banmauk with eight Townships. This District includes what was formerly the Shan State of Wuntho. Included in the Ruby Mines District are two Subdivisions and three Townships. Möng Mit is a Shan State administered by its Chief under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner of the Ruby Mines District.

Details of the last Census: Tribes and Languages

For information on the foregoing subject, a reference should be made to paragraphs 69 to 76 of the *Report on the Administratian of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Changes in the Administration.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

3. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma throughout the year.

Administrative territorial changes

4. A new District in the Mandalay Division of Upper Burma, called the Putao District, with headquarters at Putao, and comprising the Subdivisions of Putao, Laza, and Konglu, was constituted with effect from the 1st August 1914. This new District consists of the administered area situated in the basin of the Irrawaddy river and lying north of the administrative boundary of the Myitkyina

District. The limits of the Yamèthin and Meiktila Districts and of the Southern Shan States were altered during the year by the incorporation into the Thazi Township of the Meiktila District and the Southern Shan States of small areas hitherto comprised in the Pyawbwè Township of the Yamèthin District. A delimitation of the boundary between the Bhamo District and the Shan State of Möng Mit was carried out. The proposal to move the headquarters of the Syriam District from Rangoon to Syriam was finally abandoned. The Subdivision previously known as the Ngathainggyaung Subdivision in the Bassein District was rechristened the Kyônpyaw Subdivision. Modifications were made in the boundaries of the Myitkyina and Mogaung Townships in the Myitkyina District, of the Prome and Hmawza Townships in the Prome District and of the Tantabin and Insein Townships in the Insein District.

Additions to and changes in the Administrative Staff.

5. The cadre of the Burma Commission was enlarged by one appointment of Deputy Commissioner and two appointments of Assistant Commissioner, consequent on the creation of the Putao District, the inclusion of the appointment of Inspector-General of Police in the cadre of the Commission, and the creation of a seventh Divisional Judgeship on the rearrangement of Civil and Sessions Divisions in Lower Burma. One more post of Deputy Commissioner was listed as open to members of the Provincial Civil Service. An addition of four appointments was made to the cadre of the Provincial Civil Service on the creation of the Putao District, and the cadre was further increased on the retention of an additional magistrate at Oktwin, and the employment of a separate magistrate as Special Power Magistrate at Henzada. The cadre of the Subordinate Civil Service was increased on the provision of a Sub-Treasury Officer and Headquarters Magistrate at Kalaw. An increase of six temporary appointments, owing to the transfer of Military officers in the Civil Police to military duty, and of eight permanent appointments was made in the cadre of Deputy Superintendents of Police. The appointments of a Director of the Burma Pasteur Institute and of an Administrator-General and Official Trustee, and a temporary post of Assistant Superintendent for Epigraphy were created during the year. Three additional Professors of the Indian Educational Service were appointed to the Government College in Rangoon, and two Principals to the Government High Schools at Akyab and Bassein. The Postal and Telegraph Departments were amalgamated from the 1st April 1914, and the administration of the Telegraph Traffic and Engineering Branches was placed in the hands of the Postmaster-General.

Relations with Tributary States, and Frontier Affairs.

(i) *Shan and Karenni States.*

*[*Southern Shan States*: 38 *States, area* 36,154 *square miles, population* 836,574, *tribute Rs.* 2,72,800; *Karenni*: *five States, area* 4,280 *square miles, population* 63,628, *tribute Rs.* 5,350; *Northern Shan States*: *five States, area* 16,594 *square miles, population* 480,390, *tribute Rs.* 1,54,500; *Möng Mit*: *area* 3,562 *square miles, population* 53,214, *tribute Rs.* 20,000; *Hsawnghsup* (*Thaungthut*): *area* 579 *square miles, population* 7,697, *tribute Rs.* 400; *Singkaling Hkāmti* (*Zingalein Kanti*): *area* 983 *square miles, population* 2,560, *tribute Rs.* 100: *Hkamti Lōng* (*Kanti-gyi*) *or Bhor Kamti*: *area* 374 *square miles, population* (*approximate*) 6,661, *tribute Rs.* 2,500 (*approximate*).]

The Southern Shan States.

6. Save for the adventure of a woman named Nang Mi Möng belonging to the Kantarawadi family of Karenni, who came with a small following from Siam into the trans-Salween State of Möng Pan and tried to raise a force for a proposed incursion into Burma—the movement was quickly suppressed—there were no disturbances in the Southern Shan States during the year. The war excited but little comment among the people, although the *Sawbwas* were keenly interested and gave immediate and spontaneous proof of their loyalty. They themselves made generous contributions to the various war funds, and all classes of the population in their States also subscribed. Death removed two of the

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Chiefs during the year, Saw Nyun, A.T.M., *Myosa* of Pwela and Hkun Hseng, T.D.M., *Myosa* of Kehsi Mansam and they were succeeded by their sons. The administration of the Chiefs was generally satisfactory, though a few cases of misconduct came to light notably in the States of Yengan, Pangtara, and Mawkmai and in the Möng Yawng circle of the Kēngtūng State. The administratrix of Kenghkam State, Sao Nang Tip Hti La, resigned office during the year; her administration of the State during the years she was in charge had been capable and beneficent.

Perhaps the most important event of the year was the opening of the Southern Shan States railway which has now been carried to Aungban. It was formally opened by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma on the 18th of March 1915. The development of Kalaw on this railway, which promises to be a future hill-station for the Province, was pushed on, Municipal Government was introduced and a large scale survey taken in hand; but the completion of the water-supply scheme was delayed on a failure to receive the pipes ordered. From an agricultural point of view the year was an unfortunate one. The rainfall was capricious being insufficient in the Autumn and so heavy at harvest time as to cause considerable damage to the paddy crop, which in some places was insufficient for the requirements of the people. Other crops however did well and the yield of potatoes and oranges was exceptionally good. Trade too was disappointing, and though the mass of the people are said not to have been affected by the general depression due to the war, certain branches of trade were seriously affected. The details will be found in Chapter IV of this Report. Cattle disease was prevalent and nearly every State suffered from the ravages of rinderpest. The total losses are reputed to have been very heavy, but no united action has been taken to check the spread of cattle disease, and public opinion would not seem to favour energetic measures.

The battalion of Military Police stationed in the States and composed of Gurkhas, Sikhs, Kumaonis and Shans, was 89 short of its sanctioned strength of 1,136 men of all ranks at the close of the year. The outpost at Thazi was abolished on the railway being opened to Kalaw; all the other posts were maintained. The relations of the men with the people of the country were as usual satisfactory and their general health was good. The strength of the Civil Police remained unchanged at 96; the force was at full strength at the close of the year, and the conduct of the men was satisfactory. The local police maintained by the States are reported to have done well on the whole. The State police in Möng Nai and Mawkmai were reorganized, and the village police in the Myelat worked successfully, a satisfactory reduction being effected in the number of cattle thefts in the Hsamönghkam State where they had been unusually numerous in the previous year. The total volume of crime increased slightly, the number of true criminal cases reported being 1,117 as against 1,090 in 1913-14. Violent crimes decreased by 2, cattle thefts by 46; on the other hand ordinary thefts increased by 2 and other crimes by 73. Cattle thefts increased in Yawnghwe, but the increase was largely due to an outbreak of this form of crime in Kyawktat, which was quickly suppressed. In the Myelat cases decreased from 95 to 60, the reduction being most marked in the Hsamönghkam State, where they fell from 50 to 19. The number of civil suits filed during the year was 761 as against 598 in the previous year. Suits for land and other rights increased slightly, but there was a considerable increase in suits for money. In 64 per cent. of the suits the value of the suit was under Rs. 100. In Yawnghwe, where the Inthas are said to be a litigious people, the number of suits rose from 214 to 256 and in Kalaw, where the population is mixed, from 28 to 87. The area of reserved forests remained unchanged at 1,598 square miles. The proposed Taungla and Sinhe forest reserves were settled during the year, and proposals were made for a reserve at Kalaw. Forest offences fell to 34 and were all of a petty nature. The quantity of teak extracted was 10,984 logs weighing 10,520 tons, as against 10,989 logs weighing 11,234 tons in the previous year. With the revenue at Rs. 1·18 lakh and the expenditure at Rs. 1·15 lakh, a surplus of Rs. 2,954 is shown on the year's working. One mining lease was granted during the year and 7 prospecting licenses; three licenses were also renewed. But mining was practically

at a standstill, only one lead and silver mine with a small output doing any work. A sum of Rs. 8·84 lakhs was spent on public works; of this Rs. 4·89 lakhs was contributed by Government, Rs. 2·68 lakhs was provided from State Funds, and Rs. 1·27 lakh from remission of tribute. Of the amount contributed by Government the Kalaw water-supply scheme absorbed Rs. 92,386 and the Thazi-Taunggyi road Rs. 1·70 lakh. In many of the States money was expended on improving the lock-ups and building some new ones; other public works such as canals and roads were also taken in hand.

The number of patients treated in the hospitals and dispensaries of the States was 63,229 outdoor and 2,149 indoor patients as against 62,209 outdoor and 2,311 indoor patients in the previous year. There was an increase in patients at the Loilem and Bampôn Government hospitals and at the *Sawbwa's* hospital at Yawnghwe; the number of patients treated by the itinerant Sub-Assistant Surgeon in the Myelat also increased. There was a decrease of 300 at Taunggyi, and an increase at Kalaw is more than counterbalanced by a falling off at Thamakan. At Loimwe indoor patients fell off but outdoor patients increased; Kēngtūng has a general decrease but the attendance at the dispensary at Nammawngün rose from 261 to 833. The policy of concentrating the vaccination staff in definite local areas that are most liable to infection from Burma, and of operating in them till a fixed standard of success has been reached, was continued during the year. In the Cis-Salween States 19,494 persons were vaccinated with 16,311 known successes and in the Kēngtūng valley 4,419 persons. Issues of quinine to the people were continued. Attempts to improve the sanitary condition of Möng Nai Town were successful and the condition of Kēngtūng Town is also said to have improved. Education made some progress and the division of the states into two divisions for educational purposes carried out in the previous year has led to an increase in schools and pupils. The school at Taunggyi for the sons of Shan Chiefs is reported to show an improvement; some changes were made in the curriculum; the conduct of the boys is reported to have been satisfactory and the results of the yearly examination were good.

The total revenue of the States fell from Rs. 11·93 lakhs to Rs. 11·92 lakhs but still exceeds the amount collected in years prior to 1913-14. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 11·84 lakhs as against Rs. 11·42 lakhs. There was a large number of frauds and defalcations by State revenue officials during the year, but the revenue administration on the whole shows improvement.

The Karenni States.

7. The internal administration of the Karenni States during the year was satisfactory, and the Siam-Karenni border was peaceful; friendliness also marked relations with the Siamese officials. But the outbreak of the war caused a collapse in the timber trade, on which the States may be said to live, and conditions were aggravated by the large extraction of timber during the two preceding years, when prices ruled high. Very little timber has been sold since September 1914 and it is estimated that 50,000 logs remain unsold.

The sanctioned establishment of Civil Police was maintained; and the work of the States Police is said to have improved. There were only four violent crimes; cattle thefts fell from 46 to 32, but it is surmised that many cases are not reported; cases of ordinary theft fell from 29 to 25 and other crimes from 53 to 35. The number of civil suits in the Kantarawadi State rose from 8 to 13 but the value of the suits fell from Rs. 62,958 to Rs. 9,318, the decline reflecting the state of the timber trade. In the smaller States, where records were maintained for the first time, 24 suits were filed, of which 21 were disposed of. They were nearly all of a petty nature. The crops were good in Bawlakè but poor in the other States; the country, however, is generally dependent on its neighbours for its food supply. There was a decrease in the cultivated area, served by the Ngwedaung-Loikaw canal, from 1,866 acres to 697, and the superior attractions of the timber trade, when prices are high, are given as the explanation of it. The Mawchi Tin and Wolfram Mines Company, Limited, was seriously affected by the war, but fresh funds were obtained during the year and the steady rise in the price of wolfram offers a good prospect of an early recovery. The extraction of tin and wolfram amounted to 180 tons. Trade was also poor, a decline being discernible in all

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branches. A sum of Rs. 32,657 was spent on public works in the States and a remission of tribute of Rs. 2,500 is still in hand; of this Rs. 20,674 was contributed by Kantarawadi where useful work was done on roads and the Ngwedaung-Loikaw canal. The total revenue of the Kantarawadi State during the year was Rs. 87,108 as against Rs. 1·36 lakh in the previous year, and the expenditure Rs. 89,399 as against Rs. 1·18 lakh. The revenue and expenditure of the other States amounted to Rs. 40,908 and Rs. 42,782 respectively. The Kantarawadi State had a closing balance of Rs. 31,119, but none of the smaller States have any reserves to fall back on.

The Northern Shan States.

8. The disquiet, that had manifested itself among the Kachins in the North of the province, spread southwards and at one time caused alarm in the State of North Hsenwi; but the Kachins along the border of the Northern Shan States were held back and apprehensions were soon allayed. Otherwise, as in the Southern Shan States, the war excited little comment in the Northern Shan States, although the *Sawbwas* were keenly interested and gave practical demonstration of their loyalty by spontaneous contributions to the War Funds. Generally speaking the border was quiet, but serious hostilities were only narrowly averted between the Wa State of Loilün and the Shan State of Mainglün over the Hsoihsaw group of villages in the Wa States, to which both lay claims. The levies however of both sides withdrew on the arrival of a Military Police party and after a few days dispersed. Relations with the Chinese officials on the frontier were not marked with the usual cordiality, but some of these officials have been replaced by others and it is hoped that at the next meeting a greater amount of business will be disposed of. At the meeting in January 20 Chinese claims against the Northern Shan States and 25 claims by the Shan States against Burma were disposed of, but many of the claims of the States against China which had been pending for years were left unsettled; while at a second meeting held in March, though 17 cases were settled, the outstanding Kokang cases which the Chinese *Taoyin* had promised to hear were left untouched, as in the past.

The composition of the Military Police battalion stationed in the States was altered during the year, two companies of Sikhs being replaced by one company of Kachins and one of Garwahlis. The health of the men is reported to have been good and their discipline and relations with the people of the country satisfactory. The sanctioned strength of the Government Civil Police remained unchanged at 112 men of all ranks. Enlistment offered no particular difficulty, a small decrease in the number of Kachins being compensated for by an increase of Shans. The State and village police did some good work, the State of South Hsenwi being particularly happy in its village police. The number of offences reported rose from 900 to 1,030 and of persons arrested from 1,351 to 1,495, of whom 976 were convicted. Violent crimes in all courts rose from 21 to 34, North Hsenwi heading the list with 13. Cattle theft decreased slightly but petty thefts increased from 203 to 252, the increase being most marked in the Hsipaw State. The Burma Mines Settlement is responsible for a large increase of cases in the Tawngpeng State, and should the settlement grow, further arrangements for dealing with them will be necessary. In Government courts 142 civil suits were filed as against 149 in the previous year, but in the States' courts the number rose from 332 to 384.

As in the Southern States the rainfall was poor and capricious, and except in a few localities the crops suffered. Trade was also disappointing, and though the exports of potatoes and pickled tea were larger, the fall in price seriously reduced the total value of these exports, while the timber trade collapsed. On the other hand there was an improvement in other articles, and the total value of exports and imports increased. Cattle disease caused losses in Hsipaw and South Hsenwi. There was no alteration in the area of reserved forests; the three proposed reserves of Namtu, Nan Kung and Pangleng were under process of settlement during the year. The revenue of the Forest Department in the States was Rs. 49,820, and the expenditure Rs. 22,210. Development work was pushed on at the Bawdwin mine of the Burma Mines Company, Limited, and the results are reported to be satisfactory; a total tonnage of 60,380 tons of ore was

treated at the smelters. The expenditure from State Funds during the year on Public Works was Rs. 5·47 lakhs. The greater part of this sum was spent on the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges. Scarcity of labour and a shortage in the establishment is said to have greatly hampered work. Outdoor patients in all dispensaries and hospitals increased from 35,443 to 38,183 and indoor patients from 2,023 to 2,607. Vaccinations were 6,677 as against 6,133; the system of working in definite areas has now been introduced. Small-pox caused 244 deaths in North Hsenwi and there were outbreaks of plague during the year at Bawgyo, Hsipaw and Kyaukmè. The total number of registered schools rose from 29 with 1,515 pupils to 39 with 1,891 pupils. Steady progress is being made but the personnel of the Education department is said to be inadequate. The total revenue of the States increased from Rs. 12·42 lakhs to Rs. 12·96 lakhs, and the expenditure from Rs. 11·20 lakhs to Rs. 12·68 lakhs. The finances of all the States were at the close of the year in a thoroughly satisfactory condition.

Other Shan States.

9. Unrest appeared among the Kachin villages on the northern border of the Möng Mit State near Namkhan but was soon dispelled. This State however has had to contend with other troubles; the agricultural season was indifferent, the crops suffering from insufficient and untimely rains; cattle disease, especially in the Shweli area was calamitous, no fewer than 1,200 cattle dying from rinderpest; and the timber and bamboo trade was seriously affected by the war. These misfortunes are reflected in the collections of the land tax which fell from Rs. 32,003 in the previous year to Rs. 18,378; the *thathameda* and *taungya* tax collections also fell. On the other hand there was but little crime, communications are being improved, primary education has taken root and the revenue administration was carried on smoothly in spite of difficult circumstances. The Chief has continued to perform his duties satisfactorily and the administration of the State generally has improved. The total receipts of the State during the year amounted to Rs. 1·61 lakh and the expenditure to Rs. 1·70 lakh. But the excess of expenditure over income is due to efforts to improve means of communication and irrigation, of which the capital cost will, it is hoped, be recovered in a few years.

Much uneasiness was also caused in the little Shan State of Kamti in the Upper Chindwin District by the disturbances in the Kachin Hills on the borders of the Myitkyina District, but peace was maintained by the establishment of a temporary Military Police post at Kamti. Similarly the hostile preparations of the Kukis of the Somra Tract caused anxiety in the Hsawnghsup State, but prompt measures restored confidence. The crops were fair in the latter but poor in the former state. In both States the health of the people and cattle was good.

(ii) *The Chin Hills.*

[*The Chin Hills proper: area (approximately) 8,000 square miles, population 119,556; the Pakôkku Hill Tracts: area (approximately) 2,200 square miles, population 17,128: Hill District of Arakan: area 1,500 square miles, population 22,234; and tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts.*]

10. The question of revising the boundaries of the administered areas of the Chin Hills was held in abeyance owing to the war. But action was forced in the question of the administration of the Somra Tract in the drainage of the Chindwin river by the conduct of the local Chiefs on the death of Komyang, the Chief who had hitherto maintained order in these parts. Trouble arose among the Kukis on rival claimants appearing for the Chiefship, and though the two parties refrained from attacking each other, they made raids upon the Naga villages lying within the Somra Tract. The unrest too which appeared among the Kachins in the Myitkyina District at the beginning of the cold weather spread to the tract and its neighbourhood. Prompt measures were taken and the unrest subsided on the jurisdictions of the various Chiefs being defined. Proposals have now been made for the administration of the tract from the Upper Chindwin District. One case of robbery in unadministered territory was reported from the Chin Hills and two cases of kidnapping beyond the frontier were reported from

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the Hill District of Arakan. The victim was recovered in one of these cases; in the other negotiations are proceeding. In the Pakôkku Hill Tracts it was found necessary to deport a Chin Inspector of Civil Police, who was trying to foment feuds and transfrontier quarrels. In the Chin Hills increasing difficulty in recovering the customary tribal dues from persons by whom the dues are payable, and who are known as "shillas", caused dissatisfaction among the Chiefs; but the matter was firmly handled and no trouble was permitted. An excellent spirit of loyalty was displayed by the Chiefs in connection with the war. One Chief contributed Rs. 1,000 to the Relief Fund at the beginning of the war, and another gave Rs. 744 the whole of his annual commission. Other Chiefs gave according to their means. The Chin sepoys also volunteered for active service including the newly-enlisted Haka Chins. There was but little crime within the administered area. The crops were good in the Tiddim Subdivision of the Chin Hills but elsewhere great damage was done by rats and caterpillars; in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts the ravages of rats caused a general scarcity of food. The cultivation of wheat was continued during the year, but excessive and untimely rains spoilt the crops. Good results were obtained from the experimental sugarcane cultivation in the Chin Hills, but efforts to grow oranges in the Chin Hills, and Soya beans in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts, were not attended with success. The tribute was as usual collected without difficulty. Collections in the Chin Hills amounted to Rs. 66,633 and in the Pakôkku Hill Tracts to Rs. 3,446. In the latter area good progress was made with forest reservation. The number of patients treated at the civil hospitals was 41,644, a substantial increase on the figures of 1913-14, but there was a decrease in the figures for vaccination from 3,857 to 2,592. The spreading of syphilis in the hills is said to be becoming a serious matter. Education is progressing satisfactorily.

(iii) *The Kachin Hills.*

[*The Putao District and tracts in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha Districts.*]

11. The administration of the Putao District, which was occupied in 1914 began to take shape during the year. The construction of the Myitkyina-Putao mule road was pushed on as well as of a number of graded mule tracks to different places. Appointment orders were given to a large number of headmen, and the few appointment orders issued by Chinese officials were confiscated, whenever found. Some boundaries of village-tracts were settled, and a number of old feuds were dealt with and disposed of. Tribute was collected at easy rates and a commencement was made in the registration of guns. Risings of the Kachins occurred in December in the Mogaung and Kamaing jurisdictions of the Myitkyina District, followed by an outbreak at Wawang in the Putao District, a couple of months later. The insurrection was instigated by the headman of Thama in the Myitkyina District, who with four Shans of the Katha District tried to foment a general rising among all the Kachin Chiefs between Myitkyina and Putao, spreading the report that all the British troops had been sent to the seat of the war in Europe, and were being annihilated by the Germans. Columns of Military Police were sent to the disturbed areas and regular troops joined in the operations later. The various outbreaks were promptly quelled and the Kachins taught a sharp lesson. The Chiefs in the unadministered area remained friendly throughout, and the four Shan leaders of the rebellion, who had escaped into that territory, were captured a few days later by the villagers of Krawn and given up. They have been sentenced to death since the close of the year. Three Kachins who had taken leading parts were sentenced to transportation for life, but the other leaders of the rebellion are still at large. In the Hukong valley Walawbum Gam and other Kachin Chiefs supported the rising, but relations with transborder tribes elsewhere were cordial. Condign punishment was meted out to Walawbum Gam, and the *Duwa* of 'Ngan and his son who were accused of complicity in the disturbances were arrested and subsequently released on security. Incidentally, this action had the effect of settling for the time being the longstanding Laban-'Ngan feud, referred to in the report of the previous year. Relations with the Chinese were not as satisfactory as

usual; the annual frontier meetings took place but were marked by an attitude of obstructiveness on the part of the Chinese officials. Crime of all sorts as well as violent crime taken alone, decreased in all the Districts and was well dealt with. In the Putao District there were four cases of violent crime, in the Myitkyina six, in the Bhamo three and in the Katha only one. The total number of cases instituted during the year was 193. Of these 45 were from the Putao District, 103 from the Myitkyina District as compared with 127 in the previous year, 43 from the Bhamo District as against 87, the decrease in this case being striking, and 2 from the Katha District as against 18. The decrease in the number of criminal cases in the Bhamo District may be explained by the tendency now manifesting itself among the Kachins of bringing civil suits instead of criminal charges, though a love for litigation for its own sake is said to lie at the back of the increase in the civil suits in that District; the number of suits instituted during the year was 153 and is the highest number hitherto recorded. In the Myitkyina and Putao Districts civil cases were of no special interest. In the Putao District 10 villages were fined under section 13 of the Kachin Hill-Tribes Regulation, and in the Myitkyina District 6 villages. In the former District 21 headmen were fined under section 16 of the Regulation, and in the latter one was dealt with under it. Several cases under section 17 were taken up in the Putao and Myitkyina Districts. Under section 20A two Sikh traders were ordered to move from the Sinlum Kachin Hill Tracts in the Bhamo District. The collections of tribute rose from Rs. 49,693 to 59,505, the Putao District making its first contribution of Rs. 9,439. Large seizures of opium were made in the Myitkyina District, and steps are being taken to discourage poppy cultivation. In the Myitkyina District the proposed Namaw Forest Reserve in the drainage of the Uyu river was notified during the year but the settlement of the Reserve was postponed. Little or no rubber was exported, although at one time the quantity obtained in these parts is known to have been large; but over-tapping has killed nearly all the trees. The quantity of jade exported fell by 66 per cent. but the value estimated at Rs. 1·91 lakh was little short of the value of Rs. 2·16 lakhs in the previous year. The Burma Gold Dredging Company won gold to the amount of Rs. 1·51 lakh as against Rs. 3·06 lakhs. The graded and bridged mule track between Myitkyina and Putao, begun in the month of January 1914 was rapidly pushed on, and but for the rising at Wawang would have been carried through to Putao during the year. A graded fair-weather mule track was made from Tase Wang to Mondung in the Nam Tamai valley, and from the Ridam valley on the Nmai river near Magalta village to Chituhpa in the Ahkyang valley. In the Myitkyina District the suspension bridge over the Tunpang Kha on the Sadôn-Wawchôn road was completed. In the Bhamo District Rs. 3,472 was spent on roads in the Sinlum Hills and useful mule tracks connecting Mahtang with Mongloi and Mongloi with Lapyelika were constructed under the public-spirited supervision of the Reverend Fathers Gilhodes and Juery.

Condition of the People.

12. The war was not without its effect on the Province; nor could the season compare with the prosperous season of 1913-14. The indifferent crops and the comparatively poor prices realised reduced the income of agriculturists and their dependents. On the other hand the agricultural labourer, except when paid in kind benefited by the lower price of paddy. In the Thayetmyo and Pakôkku Districts greater activity in cutch and jaggery boiling resulted in a considerable extension of these secondary agricultural industries and the deficit from a poor harvest was in part made good. Owing to the raid of the German cruiser the "Emden" the supply of immigrant coolies from Madras was greatly reduced and some difficulty was experienced in securing the necessary labour for harvesting the rice crop. The scarcity of labour and the natural rise in cost was most keenly felt in the Akyab District where Indian labour is very extensively employed. In the Delta Districts the difficulty was met partly by local labour and partly by the usual immigration from Upper Burma. Many of the smaller

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proprietors however handled their own crops and the scarcity of labour thus resulted in a direct saving, which to some extent balanced the lower market price of the crop. In certain Districts also the absence of the usual speculative buyers led some of the cultivators to market their own crop in Rangoon, which was a further direct gain. The fall in the price of rubber and a temporary slackness in mining caused a slight readjustment of wages in the Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui Districts.

The year was a healthy one: the death rate fell, and the Province enjoyed comparative freedom from epidemic diseases.

CHAPTER II.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realization of the Revenue.

Demand, collections, remissions and outstandings.

13. Excluding the amounts to be credited to cess and irrigation, the land revenue demand for the year 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 291·41 lakhs as against Rs. 289·50 lakhs for the previous year. The introduction of enhanced rates of assessment in the Pegu, Bassein, Myaungmya and Pyapôn Districts more than accounted for the whole of the increase of Rs. 1·90 lakh. The agricultural conditions were throughout the Province markedly less favourable than those of the two previous years. The season was capricious: in Lower Burma excessive rains caused much destruction of crops from floods, while a sudden cessation of rain early in October interfered with the replanting of the flooded areas; in Upper Burma the conditions varied, but failure of the late rains was general. All the Divisions in Lower Burma report damage from floods. In the Arakan Division extensions of cultivation in the Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts were nullified by damage done to the crops by storms and floods, and the demand fell below that of the previous year. In the Sandoway District both the assessed area and the demand decreased slightly. In the Pegu Division although floods of some magnitude occurred in the Hanthawaddy District, no area was left unassessed on that account, while there were small extensions of cultivation both in it and the neighbouring District of Insein. In the Pegu District a marked extension of cultivation was counteracted to some extent by the erosion of considerable tracts of land on the bank of the Sittang, and the bulk of the increase of Rs. 1·65 lakh in the demand from this District proceeded from the enhancement of assessment rates following resettlement in the Nyaunglebin Subdivision. In the Tharrawaddy District the assessed area was larger by 10,103 acres, cultivation being further extended in the newly protected tract lying between the Myitmaka and Irrawaddy rivers. There were also small extensions in the Prome District. The favourable conditions of the two previous seasons had led to an extension of cultivation in the Districts of the Irrawaddy Division, which all show an increase in the area assessed, but in the year of report serious damage was done by floods, especially in the Ma-ubin District, and there was a shortage of rain in October. Large areas were assessed at fallow rates and the revenue demand fell in the Districts where revised rates of assessment on settlement were not introduced. In the three Districts of Bassein, Myaungmya and Pyapôn where enhanced rates had been newly imposed, the revenue demand shows a combined increase of Rs. 3·38 lakhs. In the Tenasserim Division floods inflicted considerable damage in the Toungoo, Thatôn and Amherst Districts; in Toungoo the demand fell by Rs. 60,339 in spite of an increase of 8,536 acres in the assessed area, in Thatôn the complete exemption from assessment of some 28,000 acres was counterbalanced by a considerable extension of cultivation and the decrease in the demand was small, but in the Amherst District the demand fell by Rs. 19,318 as a result of widespread floods. In the Districts of Tavoy and Mergui there was a small rise in the demand. In Upper Burma in the Magwe Division the revenue demand was less by Rs. 35,622 than in 1913-14, floods causing damage in the Minbu and Pakôkku Districts and drought in October in the Thayetmyo District; on the other hand, the Magwe District enjoyed a heavier rainfall and

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made a return to normal after two conspicuously bad seasons. The Districts in the Mandalay Division show unequal results; the demand from the Mandalay District fell by Rs. 9,394 on a shortage of water in the irrigated area, where the Mandalay Canal which had been damaged in the previous year had not been repaired in time, and on damage done to the riverine tract by a late rise of the river. The demand in the Myitkyina District fell by some Rs. 10,000, but Bhamo and the Ruby Mines show slight increases, and Katha, where the main paddy crop did well, an increase of Rs. 15,000. Conditions were poor in the Sagaing Division and the demand for the whole Division fell by Rs. 2·44 lakhs, the largest decrease being shown by the Sagaing District with Rs. 1·07 lakh or 22 per cent. of the demand from this District in 1913-14. Untimely drought and excessive late floods also caused damage in the Shwebo District, which suffered in addition from insect pests; but irrigation from the Shwebo Canal was fairly successful and mitigated the effect of these misfortunes. In the Lower Chindwin the demand fell by Rs. 65,624 and in the Upper Chindwin by Rs. 51,525. In the Meiktila Division the Kyauksè and Myingyan Districts show decreases of Rs. 9,450 and Rs. 31,964 while the Yamèthin and Meiktila Districts show increases of Rs. 33,855 and Rs. 14,043, these figures illustrating the varied nature of the season in the dry zone.

The total amount of revenue remitted was Rs. 7·85 lakhs as against Rs. 2·05 lakhs in 1913-14. These heavy remissions were due to the destruction of crops by floods in various Districts in Lower Burma; they were particularly serious in the Ma-ubin District where Rs. 2·69 lakhs were remitted on their account, but the Insein, Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Henzada, Toungoo, Thatôn and Amherst Districts all suffered from this cause too, and the remissions in these Districts were also considerable. In Upper Burma the only large remissions were in the Minbu and Yamèthin Districts where Rs. 7,179 and Rs. 15,300 were remitted. The economic conditions following the outbreak of the war caused an increase in the amount of revenue remitted as irrecoverable in Lower Burma from Rs. 15,185 to Rs. 63,158. The total collections of land revenue were Rs. 283·08 lakhs, or nearly Rs. 4½ lakhs less than in 1913-14; the amount outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 48,024 as against Rs. 15,335, the largest amounts being shown by Bassein with Rs. 12,057 and Pegu with Rs. 11,169. But the work of collection presented peculiar difficulties, the foreign demand for rice and the shipping facilities usually available for its export being seriously disorganised by the war.

Revenue proceedings and coercive processes.

14. The total amount under all heads of land revenue for the realisation of which application was made for the issue of process was Rs. 18·57 lakhs as against Rs. 7·39 lakhs in the previous year, and the amount realised was Rs. 14·67 lakhs, or 79 per cent. as against 83·8 per cent. As was to be expected in view of the conditions prevailing owing to the war, there was a substantial rise in the number of every kind of process. Warrants of arrest show an increase of 112 per cent. and warrants for the attachment of property an increase of 159 per cent. The number of persons arrested increased from 1,193 to 2,347, but the number actually committed to jail rose only from 32 to 41, and of these 21 were contumacious defaulters in the Prome District. Sales of moveable property for the recovery of revenue rose from 142 to 462 and of immoveable property from 685 to 2,344.

Surveys.

Surveys by Imperial agency.

15. During the year of report topographical survey operations were continued by Nos. 10 and 11 Parties of the Survey of India in the Myitkyina, Katha and Mandalay Districts of Upper Burma and in the unadministered territory between the Mali Hka and 'Nmai Hka rivers lying to the north of the Myitkyina District. An area of 2,383 square miles was surveyed partly on the one-inch and partly on the two-inch scale. Triangulation in the Myitkyina and Putao Districts and traversing of forest boundaries in the Mandalay District, round Maymyo, were carried out with a view to detail survey being extended into those areas next

season. A principal series of triangulation was reconnoitred by No. 15 Party, and the stations built, from the neighbourhood of Chittagong past Lungleh in the Lushai Hills, and across the Chin Hills to the neighbourhood of Kalemyo in Burma. Tidal operations were continued by No. 16 Party at Rangoon and Moulmein. The Magnetic Observatory of Toungoo was visited for the purpose of taking observations for the comparison of instruments. Nine repeat stations in the Province were permanently marked by concrete pillars.

Surveys by Provincial agency: extension and revision surveys.

16. In addition to the revision and extension surveys executed by the ordinary staff of the Provincial Land Records Department, 407·10 square miles of revision and extension surveys with an occupied area of 162,229 acres were carried out by special staffs during the year at a cost of Rs. 44,120. Preliminary demarcation of the area to be surveyed was undertaken in the Henzada and Myaungmya Districts. In the former District the demarcation of 27·39 square miles was carried out by the local staff, while in the latter the demarcation of the tract, comprising 46·76 square miles was carried out by a Demarcation officer at a cost of Rs. 11-8-0 per square mile. The special survey party disposed of the original survey of this tract. The area surveyed was nearly 47 square miles, the occupied area being 25,481 acres, and the cost was Rs. 132-14-0 per square mile or three annas and eleven pies per occupied acre. In the Henzada District a temporary special staff completed the traverse survey of 6,000 acres of occupied land at a cost of Rs. 987, and in the Hanthawaddy District 36½ square miles of the Kadonbaw colonisation area were demarcated and surveyed by a special staff at a cost of Rs. 3,770. In addition to these extension surveys, a revision survey was carried out in the Myaungmya District by the special survey party. The area resurveyed was 130,848 acres and the cost of the survey was Rs. 31,244 or Re. 0-3-10 per occupied acre. An area of 11 square miles comprising former accretions in the estuary of the Sittang river in the Thatôn District was also resurveyed during the year. A small special staff was employed for the work, and the cost was five annas per occupied acre. Owing to the area resurveyed in the Myaungmya District being some 49,000 acres in excess of the area originally reported, the special survey party was unable to complete its programme and undertake the projected resurvey in the Pyapôn District. The total cost of extension surveys per occupied acre during the year was Re. 0-5-7 and of revision surveys Re. 0-3-11.

Town and Fishery surveys and surveys of leased areas.

17. A sum of Rs. 39,299 was spent on the demarcation and survey of towns during the year. Special surveys of certain towns in the Meiktila and Kyauksè Districts of Upper Burma, of a portion of Yamèthin Town, which had been left unfinished at a previous survey, of a portion of Ela Town in the Yamèthin District, and in Lower Burma of the *ex*-cantonment area and Ngwehlan quarter of Toungoo Town were carried out by small special parties. The resurvey of Bassein Town by the special survey party was completed and in Rangoon Town, the revision survey scheme was also concluded. There were altogether six Demarcation officers at work in 13 towns and a total area of 22·345 square miles was demarcated at a cost of Rs. 9,917. Surveys were conducted in twelve towns belonging to five Districts and in Rangoon Town. A total area of 24·54 square miles was dealt with at a cost of Rs. 29,382. The surveys were all on the scale of 64 inches to the mile.

During the year 87 fisheries including two turtle banks in the Myaungmya District were subdivided into 170 fisheries and demarcated by a Demarcation officer. The survey was executed by a staff of one inspector and three surveyors. The cost of the demarcation amounted to Rs. 554 and of the survey to Rs. 4,315. During the year *patta* and lease surveys were conducted in seven Districts. In the Arakan Division only Kyaukpyu adopted the principle of appointing a surveyor to each Township for the survey of 1,100 acres on the contract system. In Mergui the surveys chiefly dealt with land intended for salt working and mining by native methods. In Upper Burma *patta* surveys were undertaken in the Minbu and Lower Chindwin Districts only. In Minbu the area for survey was confined to tracts receiving irrigation from the Mon canals and comprised 142

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acres contained in 27 blocks; the cost was covered by the fees realized. In Lower Chindwin three surveyors were employed to carry out the surveys of three mining licenses; the area surveyed was 4,380 acres and the cost Rs. 200. Some 16 leases for cultivation aggregating 82 acres were also disposed of in this District at a cost of Rs. 41 on the piece-work system. In the Tavoy District a special survey staff for the conduct of mines surveys in connection with wolfram mining was employed. The season's programme consisted in the survey of 16 areas for which mining leases had been sanctioned by the Local Government, but from one cause or another only 13 were dealt with. The leases were greatly scattered and comprised some 24,000 acres or about 40 square miles approximately of which only 19,245 acres were completed during the field season. The total cost of the field operations was Rs. 22,256. The cost of the survey is recoverable from the lessees at a fixed rate per running mile of boundary.

Settlements.

Progress of Settlements.

18. During the year ending on the 30th June 1915 six parties were again engaged on settlement operations. The operations extended to ten Districts and covered a gross area of 14,381 square miles with an occupied area of 3,747,000 acres. In the Bassein, Henzada and Insein Districts and the Kawa Township of the Pegu District, the field work had all been completed before the beginning of the year, and the work of the settlement parties in these areas, comprising a gross area under settlement of 5,011 square miles and an occupied area of 1,387,000 acres was during the year of report confined to the compilation of the reports. In the Thayetmyo, Akyab, Tharrawaddy, Kyaukpyu, Sandoway and Prome Districts, and the Pegu and Thanatpin Townships of the Pegu District, where settlement operations were conducted in the field, soil classification and connected operations were completed during the year over 1,222,000 acres of occupied area. Of these settlements, those in the Thayetmyo, Akyab and Tharrawaddy Districts were begun in 1913 and the remainder in 1914.

Financial results and expenditure.

19. Revised rates following the settlements in the Bassein and Toungoo Districts were sanctioned during the year. The Bassein settlement produced an enhancement of demand of Rs. 2·92 lakhs from Rs. 12·23 lakhs or an increase of 23·87 per cent., and the Toungoo settlement an enhancement of Rs. 3·22 lakhs from Rs. 8·06 lakhs or an increase of 39·96 per cent. Owing however to the application of intermediate rates and the postponement of the enforcement of the rates in certain areas in both the Bassein and Toungoo Districts till the 1st July 1916 when the current settlements expire, the immediate enhancement will fall considerably below these figures. The reports of the Pegu (Kawa Township) and Insein (Hlègu Township) settlement and of the Henzada settlement completed during the year, are still under consideration. The expenditure during the year of report of the six settlement parties which were at work during the year was Rs. 4·58 lakhs. The cost of operations per square mile of gross area was Rs. 87 or about 5 annas per occupied acre.

Land Records.

Area under supplementary survey.

20. The rural area under supplementary survey in 1914-15 was 51,444 square miles or 8 square miles less than in 1913-14. In the majority of Districts the area remained the same, but there were alterations in seven Districts. In Kyaukpyu the area under supplementary survey increased by some 40 square miles due to the survey of 94 *kwins* by the special survey party in the year 1913-14. The decrease in the Pakôkku District amounted to 49 square miles due to the creation of the Kaing and Myitche fuel reserves A decrease in the Yamèthin District was due to the formation of an elephant grazing reserve at Paunglaung. The total assessment aggregated Rs. 3,28,13,502, an increase of Rs. 4,21,625 on the total of 1913-14, which was mainly due to the introduction of new settlement rates in the following Districts: Rangoon Town, Pegu, Bassein,

Myaungmya and Pyapôn. The urban area under supplementary survey continued to expand, and the total area now stands at 247 square miles, an increase of 2 square miles during the year. The land revenue credited to Government from this source also increased and amounted to Rs. 11·59 lakhs showing an increase of Rs. 1·12 lakh. A major portion of this increase amounting to Rs. 91,220 was contributed by Rangoon. The Land Records Department is responsible for the preparation of municipal assessment rolls in many towns, and during the year rolls equivalent to a revenue demand of Rs. 7·35 lakhs were prepared. This total represents an increase of just over two lakhs of rupees on the demand for 1913-14, but of this increase one lakh of rupees is due to the introduction of the system of collection of revenue by ward headmen in twelve blocks in Akyab Town. During the year the preparation of these municipal assessment rolls in the Insein, Thayetmyo and Yamèthin Districts was also delegated to the Land Records Department.

Cost of supplementary survey.

21. The total cost of supplementary survey was Rs. 15·45 lakhs as against Rs. 15·43 lakhs in the previous year. The cost of superintendence and of the field staff was slightly less than in 1913-14, but there was a rise in expenditure of over Rs. 6,000 under Contingencies and Supplies. The cost of the department for the year, calculated on an assessment basis, was 4·45 per cent. and shows a decline of ·09 per cent. on the figures of the previous year. In the majority of the Districts in Lower Burma there was a slight fall in the percentage of cost, but this was neutralised by a rise in the Sagaing Division, where the agricultural year was a poor one and the revenue suffered in consequence. The average cost per occupied acre fell from As. 1·447 to As. 1·433.

Training of officers.

22. The number of survey schools continued at 18. The total number of pupils on the rolls of the schools on the 31st March 1915 was 251, or 3 less than in 1913-14. Of these 106 paid no fees. The educational attainments of the students continue at a high level and the majority are admitted on the strength of their educational certificates. Compared with past years and the results at the Syndicate examinations, however, it is obvious the schools are not attracting pupils as in former years, and they will soon contain no others but those who are paid to learn surveying. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 38,944 against an income of Rs. 3,361. The cost of educating each pupil thus works out to nearly Rs. 125. The results obtained at the Syndicate Examination of April 1915 showed a considerable improvement on the previous year. In arithmetic the results were the best on record, being 82 per cent. as against 54 per cent. to 69 per cent. in the past six years; in Revenue they were 62 per cent. as against 46 per cent. to 71 per cent. in the previous years; while in Surveying they were 74 per cent. as against 44 per cent. only in 1914 and 62 per cent. to 77 per cent. in the years previous to that year. The Shwebo School was the most successful, while Henzada, which passed only two boys in Surveying this year, showed the worst results. The prescribed examination for apprentices was not held in four Districts. In the Districts, where the examination was held, 116 out of 178 candidates obtained certificates, but the standard set at the examinations in the different Districts is said not to be uniform.

Transfers of land.

23. The statistics relating to transfers of land were collected during the year of report over 17,244,735 acres as compared with an area of 17,052,229 acres over which they were collected in 1913-14. The area sold during the year decreased by 72,000 acres from 566,000 to 494,000 acres, and the area mortgaged increased by 137,000 acres from 382,000 to 519,000 acres. The total area held under non-usufructuary mortgage at the end of the year increased by 316,000 acres from 1,407,000 to 1,723,000 acres. As compared with the area to which the statistics relate, the area transferred by sale represents 2·9 per cent. of the total area as against 3·3 per cent. transferred by sale in the previous year; the area mortgaged 3 per cent. as against 2·2 per cent., and the area held under non-usufructuary mortgage 10 per cent. as against 8·3 per cent. In sales the value

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per acre rose from Rs. 53 to Rs. 60 and in mortgages from Rs. 43 to Rs. 45. The area redeemed during the year rose from 183,000 to 189,000 acres.

The great majority of these transactions in land relate to land in Lower Burma, which is responsible for 91 per cent. of the area sold and 97 per cent. of the area mortgaged. The percentage of land transferred by sale in Lower Burma during the year was 4·8 of the total area as against 5·6 per cent. in 1913-14; in Upper Burma the percentage of land sold was ·58 of the total area as against ·67 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of land mortgaged during the year in Lower Burma was 5·44 of the total area as against 4·03 per cent., and the percentage of land held under non-usufructuary mortgage at the end of the year 18·02 of the total area as against 14·9 per cent. in the previous year; in Upper Burma the percentage of land mortgaged was ·17 of the total area as against ·16 per cent. and the percentage of land held under non-usufructuary mortgage ·59 of the total area as against ·52 per cent. in the previous year. Thus while the percentages of land sold, mortgaged during the year, and held under mortgage, in Upper Burma varied only very slightly, the percentage of the area sold in Lower Burma decreased by nearly 1 per cent., the percentage of the area mortgaged increased by nearly 1½ per cent. and the area held under mortgage increased by over 3 per cent. In the value of land the rate per acre increased in Lower Burma by Rs. 7 in the case of sales, and by Rs. 2 in the case of mortgages; in Upper Burma the rate per acre in sales increased by Rs. 3 and in mortgages decreased by Rs. 6. The total value of sale transactions during the year decreased by Rs. 5 lakhs, and the total value of mortgage transactions increased by Rs. 68½ lakhs. The area redeemed during the year shows an increase of 8,000 acres in Lower Burma and a decrease of 1,000 in Upper Burma. In Lower Burma where the Bassein, Myaungmya, Pyapôn, Tharrawaddy and Thatôn Districts show the greatest increases in the area of land mortgaged, and Henzada is the only District in the Delta which shows an increase in the area of land sold, it is surmised that the small cultivator suffered from the poor prices that ruled during the beginning of 1915, but that the larger landholders and paddy merchants who were able to hold up their stocks profited by the higher prices at the end of the year. It is also pointed out that it is doubtful whether the larger agriculturists and paddy traders were at any time seriously affected by the conditions brought about by the war, and the fact that some 448,000 acres were transferred by sale combined with an increase in the sale value per acre and an increased redemption in spite of adverse conditions is taken as indicating that confidence in land as an investment remained unshaken. In Upper Burma where the figures are steadier, the decrease in the value of the land mortgaged and in the area redeemed indicate a scarcity of money.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

24. The area of land granted or leased for cultivation decreased by 5,483 acres from 13,125 to 7,642 acres, or just over 40 per cent. The issue of grants for ordinary paddy or similar cultivation was further curtailed, particularly in the Arakan Division, although the area of 2,067 acres granted in the Kyaukpyu District was still comparatively large. Leases were again issued in the special lease areas of the Insein and Hanthawaddy Districts, but these areas were reduced to more manageable limits during the year. In Insein the whole area leased, amounting to 543 acres, fell within the restricted area, but in Hanthawaddy the bulk of the area leased fell outside it. But little land was leased during the year for rubber cultivation owing, it is presumed, to lack of capital, and in the Thatôn District considerable areas leased for rubber cultivation were surrendered. In the Toungoo District 155 acres were leased for cotton cultivation. Leases were issued on the allotment of land for paddy or *dani* cultivation on newly-formed accretions from the sea in the Amherst District, and a total area of 155 acres was leased in the Môn Canal tract in the Minbu District with the practical completion of the allotment of newly irrigated land within it.

25. The area granted for the erection of religious edifices decreased by 49 acres from 256 to 207 acres. The total area granted free of revenue for public purposes was 66 acres as against 45 acres in the previous year; two acres were granted for the Pasteur Institute in Rangoon, one acre for an orphanage at Insein, and small areas for schools in the Mandalay, Sagaing and Lower Chindwin Districts. The area granted or leased as an appanage of the office of headman and known as "*thugyisa*" was 590 acres as against 1,216 in the previous year; in the Pakôkku District ten allotments were made measuring in all 131 acres. The land thus granted in Lower Burma was frequently grant land resumed for breach of conditions, but in one case in Tharrawaddy a portion of a disforested reserve was leased. The increase in the total value of assignments of land revenue during the year was Rs. 979 as against Rs. 1,540 in the previous year. The total value of the assignments of land revenue at the end of the year was Rs. 56,848 as against Rs. 55,872 in 1913-14.

Revenue-free grants of land and assignments of land revenue.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

26. The character of the land tenures in Burma is fully explained in paragraph 39 *et seq.* of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12. Apart from Government land of the kinds therein described there are no Government estates in the special sense of particular cultivated areas managed by Government after the fashion of a private landlord. There are no wards' estates.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

27. The area occupied by agriculturists was 14,634,420 acres and shows an increase of 55,100 on the area so held in the previous year. The area held by non-agriculturists who are also non-resident increased by 62,733 acres to 1,599,423 acres, while the area held by resident non-agriculturists declined by 18,403 acres to 913,254 acres. Of the total area held by the three classes, agriculturists held 85·3 per cent, non-agriculturists, who are non-resident, 9·3 per cent. and resident non-agriculturists 5·3 per cent. Allowing for the difference in area to which the statistics relate, when a comparison is made with the previous year, practically no change is seen in the percentages of the areas held by these three classes. In Lower Burma the proportion of land held by non-agriculturists is highest in the Hanthawaddy District where non-agriculturists hold 43 per cent. of the total area. In only four other Districts does the area held by non-agriculturists exceed 25 per cent. of the total occupied area; in Pyapôn it is 33 per cent., in Insein 30 per cent., in Ma-ubin 29 per cent. and in Pegu 28 per cent. All these Districts are important rice-producing Districts and the ownership of land in such Districts is to a large extent a branch of the rice export industry, traders and brokers buying in order to control supplies of paddy. In Upper Burma the proportion of land held by non-agriculturists is in most Districts small. In the Upper and Lower Chindwin Districts, however, a comparatively large proportion is so held, traders and money-lenders there favouring land as the best, if not the only, investment.

Area held by agriculturists.

28. The area recorded as let at full rents decreased by 220,000 acres to 3,035,524 acres, but these figures probably give an inadequate account of the matter, as in most cases the rent paid is not the rent actually agreed upon, and this leads to faulty classification. Rebates were common during the year of report owing to the indifferent crop, and would explain the sudden drop in the area let at full rents. In most Districts of Lower Burma the money value of rent per acre shows a considerable decrease as compared with the figures of the previous year; but rental values are calculated on the value of the produce at harvest time, and the price of paddy in the year of report was then abnormally low. On a cash basis Rs. 140 lakhs less were paid in rent during the year than in 1913-14. In Upper Burma rents were scarcely affected, distance from Rangoon giving stability

Tenancies.

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to price which in turn gives a certain fixity to rents. The area let, however, in Upper Burma is comparatively small, only three Districts, Yamèthin, Mandalay and Myingyan, feporting total areas rented exceeding 10,000 acres. A slight increase of 2,645 in the number of holdings let continuously for five years or more brought the total number of such holdings to 68,077. The number of the settled tenant class renting the same land continuously for five years or more shows a slight increase of 567. A decrease in the number of these tenants in the Sandoway District is attributed to strained relationships in areas near the towns of Gwa, Sandoway and Taungup, and a great increase in the Akyab and Hanthawaddy Districts to the steady immigration of Chittagonian cultivators and the perseverance of the Madrassi tenant.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1914.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1914.
Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma for the year 1914.
Report on the measures adopted for the extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes in Burma during the year 1914.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1914.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1914.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1914.
Note on the working of the Registration Department in Burma for the year 1914.
Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1914-15.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1914-15.
Resolution reviewing the Reports on the working of Municipalities in Burma during the year 1914-15.
Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Buildings and Roads Branch) excluding Irrigation, for the year 1914-15.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon, from the 1st April 1914 to the 31st March 1915.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1914-15, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1914-15
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistics of British India, Parts II, V, VI, and VIII.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1914-15.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the Legislative Authority of the Province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Course of Legislation.

Work of Legislative Council.

29. The legislative year which ended on the 31st March 1915 was a normal one so far as the work of the local legislature was concerned. All emergency legislation rendered necessary by the war took the the shape either of General Acts of the Imperial Council or of Ordinances made by the Governor-General under section 23 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861.

The three Bills referred to in the report of the preceding year, *viz.*, the Burma Village Amendment Bill, the Burma Outports Bill and the Burma Canal Amendment Bill passed into law as Burma Acts I, II and III of 1914 during the year of report. The Burma Medical Bill was also introduced into Council during the year, but did not pass into law till after its close.

The Burma Village Amendment Act amends the Burma Village Act, 1907, by inserting a section which makes it the duty of the headman of a village-tract, in which a *pwè* is being held, to disarm all persons who are in possession of offensive weapons while proceeding to, returning from, or being present at a *pwè*, and which makes it an offence for any person to be in possession of such weapons while present at a *pwè*. The section does not apply to persons exempted from the provisions of section 27 of the Indian Arms Act, or to persons employed by a

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headman to assist him in keeping order at a *pwè*, or to persons exempted by special or general order of the Deputy Commissioner. The object of the measure is to check the practice of attending *pwès* armed with dangerous weapons not included in the Indian Arms Act.

The Burma Outports Act was enacted with the object of providing a source of additional revenue for the minor ports of Burma by providing for the levy of dues upon goods landed or shipped at such ports. The Act does not, however, apply to every minor port, but only to such outports as the Local Government may by notification declare to be outports for the purposes of the Act. Section 2 defines "outport" as meaning any port in Burma other than the Port of Rangoon. Provision is made regarding the rates, the crediting, and the recovery of such dues, as also for the making of rules by the Local Government for carrying out the purposes of the Act.

The Burma Canal Amendment Act is a measure designed to encourage and promote co-operation amongst cultivators in erecting and maintaining private embankments for the reclamation and protection of land. With this object in view it provides for the authoritative record of the terms, privileges and mutual obligations of the parties concerned and of their successors in interest, and of the rules and customs governing the management of such works as well as for their enforcement. It also simplifies the procedure in connection with the application of certain provisions of the Act to village canals and village drainage works.

General Acts affecting Burma.

30. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year :—

General Acts of 1914.

XII.—The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1914.
XIII.—The Indian Life Assurance Companies (Amendment) Act, 1914.
XIV.—The Indian Post Office and Telegraph (Amendment) Act, 1914.
XV.—The Indian Army (Amendment) Act, 1914.
XVI.—The Indian Aircraft (Amendment) Act, 1914.
XVII.—The Second Repealing and Amending Act, 1914.

General Acts of 1915.

I.—The Emergency Legislation Continuance Act, 1915.
III.—The Foreigners (Amendment) Act, 1915.
IV.—The Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915.
V.—The Indian Paper Currency (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1915.
VI.—The Indian Patents and Designs (Temporary Rules) Act, 1915.
IX.—The Sea Customs (Amendment) Act, 1915.

The undermentioned Ordinances affecting Burma were made and promulgated by the Governor-General under section 23 of the Indian Councils Act, 1861.

Ordinances of 1914.

I.—The Indian Naval and Military News (Emergency) Ordinance, 1914.
II.—The Impressment of Vessels Odinance, 1914.
III.—The Foreigners Ordinance, 1914.
IV.—The Indian Volunteers Ordinance, 1914.
V.—The Ingress into India Ordinance, 1914.
VI.—The Commercial Intercourse with Enemies Ordinance, 1914.
VII.—The Foreigners (Amendment) Ordinance, 1914.
VIII.—The Foreigners (Further Amendment) Ordinance, 1914.
IX.—The Articles of Commerce Ordinance, 1914.

Ordinance of 1915.

I.—The Indian Paper Currency Amendment Ordinance, 1915.

All these Acts and Ordinances came fully into force during the year of report with the solitary exception of the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915, sections 1 and 2 only of which came into operation on the 19th March 1915, the day on which the Act received the assent of the Governor-General. The rest of the Act which may be brought into operation in any province or part thereof by a notification of the Governor-General in Council was not brought into operation in Burma.

Regulations affecting Burma.

31. No Regulations affecting Burma were enacted during the year. But sections 54, 59, 107, 117, 118 and 123 of the Transfer of Property Act were extended to Upper Burma.

Extension of Enactments to Shan States.

32. The Wild Birds and Animals Protection Act, 1912, was extended to the State of Möng Mit, the Burma Steam-boilers and Prime-movers Act, 1910, was extended to the States of North Hsenwi and Tawngpeng, in the Northern Shan States, and the Foreigners Act, 1864, was extended to all the Shan States.

Police.

Civil Police: strength, recruitment and cost.

33. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police-force in Burma (excluding the Rangoon Town Police) was at the end of the year 1,505 officers and 14,385 men, as against 1,486 officers and 14,316 men at the end of the previous year. The cadre of deputy superintendents was increased by eight appointments and of inspectors by five. Increases of strength for various purposes aggregating a total of 6 sub-inspectors, 18 head constables and 51 constables were sanctioned. The actual strength, excluding officers above the rank of deputy superintendent, was 1,322 officers and 13,295 men, and the shortage of 1,129 officers and men shows an increase of 126 on the figure for the previous year. But this increase is nominal, as it was almost entirely due to the transfer of a large number of men from the regular force to the additional force engaged towards the end of the year. The difficulties in recruitment continue. Burman recruits are more difficult to obtain, the quality is becoming worse, and it is more difficult to retain the men for any length of time after they have enlisted. Owing to the serious shortage of Burman constables in certain Districts, it was found necessary to sanction a temporary increase in the proportion of Indian constables. Indian constables are easily obtainable, but the stamp of men is steadily deteriorating. The total cost of the force payable from Imperial and Provincial funds was Rs. 60·62 lakhs as against Rs. 59·99 lakhs in 1913. The increase of Rs. 62,409 was partly due to the increases in the cadres. The expenditure paid from other than Imperial and Provincial revenues decreased by Rs. 51,655. The cost of the additional police employed under section 15 of the Police Act was Rs. 1·58 lakhs, as against Rs. 2·17 lakhs in the previous year.

Conduct, education and training.

34. The war increased civil police work, and in certain localities the Burman civil police carried out armed guard, patrol and escort, duties usually performed by the military police. They performed their additional duties with efficiency. There was an increase in the number of men rewarded and a reduction in the number punished. Seventeen officers were dismissed or removed as against 11 in 1913, but the number of men thus dealt with fell from 514 to 496. The number of officers and men convicted by magistrates was 6 officers and 301 men as against 8 officers and 330 men. The percentage of punishments to the actual strength of the force stands at 14, but many men were punished more than once and the general conduct of the force was satisfactory. Eight cases of violence to 6 persons and 2 prisoners, 4 of wrongful confinement and one of wrongful behaviour to persons not involving violence were proved against members of the force during the year. The reduction from a total number of 27 such cases

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in 1913 is striking. In all cases the offenders were punished. The number of desertions was 236, as against 235 in 1913. Resignations without pension numbered 1,111. The establishment of Police Co-operative Societies was further considered, but the scheme, involving subscription out of pay, is said not to be popular. Out of a total actual strength of 14,617 subordinate officers and men, 12,643 are literate. Old constables to the number of 2,449 were trained during the year and 94 per cent. of them qualified. Of recruits 1,829 entered the training depôts, of whom 1,021 appeared for the qualifying examination, 966 passing. The training depôts are now only open for six months in the year and this accounts for a decrease of 360 in the number of men who entered them. Efforts were made to improve the standard of revolver shooting among sub-inspectors, and 7,552 men and 884 recruits were put through the annual course of musketry. During the year a number of modifications were made in the training at the Provincial Police Training School at Mandalay. An assistant surgeon attached to the Mandalay General Hospital was placed in sub-medical charge of the school, and an improvement in the health of the cadets has been effected.

Buildings.

35. The allotment sanctioned in the Public Works Department budget for Civil Police buildings amounted to Rs. 4·96 lakhs, as against Rs. 2·41 lakhs in 1913, and the allotment for departmental petty constructions and repairs in the Police budget to Rs. 2·50 lakhs. The housing of the force in the Districts is inadequate, and a sum of Rs. 1·09 lakhs was spent in renting houses for officers and men as against Rs. 79,997 in the previous year. Progress was made in the construction of quarters for the force, and in the improvement of police-station buildings. The scheme for the improvement of police lock-ups was taken in hand; detailed estimates and plans were drawn up for several, and a sum of Rs. 38,074 was expended. Orders were passed by the Local Government during the year for the discontinuance of the construction of police buildings by the Police Department, and the introduction of a scheme for the construction of permanent cottages by the Public Works Department. In furtherance of this scheme a survey report on all police buildings was commenced.

Crime and the working of the Police.

36. The total number of true cases of cognizable crime reported during the year fell by 188 cases from 41,299 to 41,111. There was a marked decrease in the number of violent crimes from 1,438 to 1,296, and the number of offences in which firearms were used dropped from 117 to 88. This result is attributable in part to the measures taken during the year to deal with the low class of self-styled Anglo-Indian hunters who lend their guns and sell ammunition to unauthorized persons. There was a decrease of 12 cases in all kinds of murders to 437, of 12 in cases of culpable homicide to 97, of 56 in cases of dacoity to 128, of 56 in robberies to 473, and of 18 in cases of housebreaking of the more serious descriptions to 87. This decrease in violent crime was more or less equally divided between Upper and Lower Burma. The Districts in Lower Burma showing increases are Pegu with 16 cases, Bassein with 14, and Hanthawaddy with 8. Decreases of 32, 24, 19, 18, 13 and 9 cases are recorded by the Pyapôn, Prome, Tharrawaddy, Insein, Thatôn and Thayetmyo Districts, respectively. In Upper Burma the Magwe and Yamèthin Districts show decreases of 22 each, and Myingyan of 12.

In the total amount of cognizable crime there was a decrease of 32 cases in offences against public justice; a decrease of 261 cases to 5,027 in serious offences against the person; an increase of 131 to 5,214 in serious offences against property; a decrease of 50 in minor offences against the person; an increase of 442 in minor offences against property; and a decrease of 418 in other offences. The bulk of the crime occurred as usual in Lower Burma, and particularly in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions, again as usual. In the Pegu Division, the Hanthawaddy District has an increase of 460 cases: offences against public justice rose from 9 to 26, serious offences against the person rose by 46, the increase being chiefly in cases of grievous hurt, criminal force, murder and hurt; serious offences against property rose by 93, though dacoities fell by 8, this decline being ascribed to the fact that on the outbreak of the war the waterways of the District were patrolled

by steam-launches carrying troops. The Insein District shows but little change in the total number of cases, but dacoities fell from 15 to 5 and robberies from 29 to 18. The Prome District has a decrease of 414 cases, running through all the forms of crime; the most noticeable decreases are 15 cases under murder and kindred offences, and 8 under dacoity. The Tharrawaddy District shows an increase of 267 cases, but the increase is chiefly in petty crime and serious crime decreased. Cases of grievous hurt fell by 21, of hurt by 41, of dacoity by 10, and of robbery by 6. In the Irrawaddy Division, the Bassein District has a decrease of 202 cases, but this is more than accounted for by a reduction in petty offences. Dacoities rose by 13, robberies by 12, and cases of housebreaking by 42. On the other hand serious offences against the person fell by 85, cases of murder, grievous hurt and ordinary hurt decreasing and cases of attempted murder and kidnapping increasing. The Henzada District presents a striking increase of 14 cases of murder, and a heavy increase in burglaries and petty thefts. Cases of dacoity and robbery, however, fell from 42 to 29. The Myaungmya District has an increase of 94 cases, murders and attempts at murder increasing by 9 and dacoities and robberies decreasing by 5 and 4. The figures for the Ma-ubin District show that the rise in murders and hurt cases during 1913 subsided in 1914; murders decreased by 5, cases of grievous hurt by 37, and of ordinary hurt by 44. Dacoities decreased by 1, but robberies increased by 3. The Pyapôn District shows a total decrease of 462 cases and, eliminating a decrease of 261 petty cases, a reduction is found in nearly every form of crime. In the Tenasserim Division the Toungoo District reports an increase of 242 cases, of which 165 are of petty offences. The variations are not of importance. The Thatôn District maintains the reduction in serious crime noticed last year. Murders decreased by 2, cases of grievous hurt by 13, dacoities by 3, and robberies by 14. The Amherst District records a further decrease of 57 cases, but the number of serious offences has increased slightly. There were 5 fewer dacoities than in 1913, but murders, attempted murders and culpable homicides rose by 7, 2 and 4 cases, respectively. The Tavoy and Mergui Districts have only a small volume of crime to deal with. In the Arakan Division serious offences against the person decreased in the Akyab but increased in the Kyaukpyu District. In the former District, which had been free of dacoities in the previous year, 4 took place. In Upper Burma in the Magwe Division the Minbu and Magwe Districts, excluding petty offences in which also there were reductions, show between them a decrease of 134 cases. Murders increased in Minbu but dacoities fell by 7, and in Magwe, where 9 dacoities occurred in 1913, none took place in 1914. The figures for the Districts of Thayetmyo and Pakôkku are more or less normal, but Thayetmyo was visited with an epidemic of human kidnapping towards the end of the year. The Mandalay Division shows a slight decrease and the Sagaing Division a slight increase in crime. In the Meiktila Division there was an increase of 78 cases in serious offences against the person, but the only noticeable figure is the rise in the number of grievous and ordinary hurt cases in the Myingyan District from 72 to 106. Both robberies and dacoities increased in the Meiktila District, but decreased in the Yamèthin District by 15. The total number of cases of cattle theft in the Province decreased by 300 from 3,101 to 2,801. The Districts of Tharrawaddy, Prome, and Yamèthin declared the largest decreases of 97, 76 and 53, respectively, while the Thayetmyo and Toungoo Districts show increases of 27 and 20, respectively. Ordinary thefts rose by 747 to 9,916 owing to the scarcity of money towards the end of the year. The percentage of cases investigated by the police in which convictions were obtained was 67 as against 69 in 1913. Excluding petty cases and cases compounded in court, the percentage of convictions to cases tried was 83 as against 84, while the percentage of convictions to all cases dealt with remained unchanged at 56. The total value of the property stolen during the year was Rs. 17·12 lakhs of which Rs. 5·16 lakhs or 30 per cent. was recovered.

It is pointed out in the annual report that though the population in the Province since 1899 has only risen 15 per cent. serious crime has risen 26 per cent., in spite of the fact that the sanctioned strength of the police-force has risen from 1 in 789 of population in 1899 to 1 in 744 in 1914.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Important incidents.

37. The criminal annals of the year contain the usual atrocities, which are, however, of no unusual significance. In the Prome District a young girl of 19 years of age was murdered on her way home from the fields for the sake of a pair of gold ear-rings she was wearing; and in the Toungoo District a child of 5, who was wearing gold bangles, ear-rings and silver anklets and was missed, was found next day lying dead with six "dah" wounds, the trinkets gone. Some big dacoities and some spirited encounters between dacoits and villagers are reported. In the Insein District there was a dacoity in which twelve men took part, armed with three guns and two revolvers; the dacoits expended 30 cartridges in keeping the villagers at bay and made off with their booty. In the same District five men attacked Nabebin village: the whole village under the headman turned out against them and were joined by the Township Officer who was armed with a double-barrelled shot gun. Shots were exchanged, but no one was hit and the dacoits again made off with their booty. In the Pegu District five dacoits who had a gun entered a house in Dodan village; the owner of the house showed fight with a spear and another villager attracted by the noise ran to his help, armed with a spear and a "dah." Between them the two men put the five dacoits to flight. In the Pyapôn District a serious dacoity was committed at Seinkaing village by a gang of eleven men armed with a 12-bore shot gun, a rifle and spears; they looted property to the value of Rs. 10,712. In the Thayetmyo District a boat moored near Mobon village was attacked by five men armed with a home-made gun and "dahs;" on hearing the alarm a beat constable, who happened to be in the village, turned out with the villagers and headman; they attacked the dacoits in spite of shots fired at them, and wounded two men who were drowned, capturing a third. An organized gang of dacoits was broken up in the Prome District by the deportation of its leader to Akyab. At the close of the year a notorious criminal, Nga Chet Gyi, who was absconding and was wanted for offences of murder, grievous hurt, house-breaking, dacoity and robbery was shot dead in the Bassein District, while resisting arrest. He had defied capture for three years, and had collected round him a band of other absconders, who hid in the "Yomas", only issuing forth to commit dacoities. An interesting robbery from the point of view of detection is reported from the Myaungmya District. The house of a Karen was attacked by four men; he and his two sisters put up a fight, and although all three of them were wounded they drove off the dacoits wounding at least one of them. A bloody finger print was found on a scythe left behind by the robbers, and on being sent to the Finger Print Bureau, was identified as that of one of the men suspected of the crime. An attempt to raise a rebellion in the Kyaikto Subdivision of the Thatôn District was nipped in the bud by the arrest of the three ringleaders. One of them had already once suffered transportation for 20 years for rebellion. The difficulty of obtaining convictions against habitual dacoits is seen from the following vicissitudes of a case in the Henzada District. In 1913, 32 persons were sent up for trial under section 400 of the Indian Penal Code; the committing magistrate discharged 15 of them before the end of the year; the Sessions Judge acquitted 7 of them at the beginning of 1914, and 5 were finally acquitted by the Chief Court. The policy of issuing guns to selected headmen for the defence of their village against criminals, at first tried in the Pegu Division was extended with equal success to the Irrawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions.

Offences under Special Acts.

38. The number of cases dealt with under the Excise Act decreased by 204 to 5,504. Of these 3,237 were dealt with by the Excise Department, and 1,683 by the Police. Cases to the number of 5,451 were brought to trial, and 4,728 ended in conviction. As regards persons, 6,569 were arrested, of whom 6,518 were tried and 5,070 convicted, the percentage of convictions to arrests being 77. The working results with regard to cases show a slight falling off; with regard to persons they remain practically the same. A large seizure of 69,300 tolas of ganja was made in the Ruby Mines District, and two large seizures of 14,400 and 4,800 grains of cocaine in the Henzada District. Other large seizures of cocaine were made in Toungoo, Insein, Tharrawaddy and Myaungmya. But the smuggling of cocaine is prevalent in most of the Districts in the Pegu and

Irrawaddy Divisions. In the Pegu District the use of cocaine is said to be steadily increasing, while it is reported to be spreading in the Districts of Pyapôn and Myaungmya. An attempt was made during the year to obtain statistics of crime caused by drink. Excepting the Arakan Hill Tracts, the Salween and Ruby Mines Districts and the Southern Shan States, all Districts reported combined totals of 69 cases of murder, 6 of attempted murder, 19 of culpable homicide, 17 of robbery or dacoity, 91 of lurking house trespass or house-breaking, 492 of hurt, and 80 other cases as directly due to drink. The figures furnished by some of the Districts are not reliable, but the Henzada and Myaungmya Districts kept a careful record of cases of violence attributable to drink. In Henzada 20 per cent. of the murders and hurt cases in the District are reported to have been due to drink, and in the Myaungmya District, out of a total of 149 cases, 20 or 13 per cent. In the Insein District, 83 cases of all descriptions, 4 being of murder and 26 of grievous hurt, and in the Bassein District 73 cases of serious crimes against the person, are reported as being attributable to drink. Under the Opium Act, 2,324 cases were dealt with as against 2,402 in 1913 and 2,277 cases were brought to trial. The percentage of cases which ended in conviction to cases dealt with was 94 as against 95 in the previous year. Of 2,947 persons arrested 2,323 were convicted. The largest amount of opium seized during the year was 13,863 tolas, seized in the Akyab District. A total amount of 16,925 grains of morphia was seized in the Henzada District, where it is reported morphia is ousting opium, being cheaper and of equal efficacy. During the year 208 prosecutions were instituted under section 3 of the Burma Opium Law Amendment Act and 156 were successful, as against 143 with 122 successful cases in 1913, the Police of the Henzada, Myaungmya, Prome, Thatôn, and Pyapôn Districts being chiefly active. The number of cases dealt with under the Gambling Act was 3,675 as against 4,233 in 1913, and 3,630 cases were brought to trial, of which 76 per cent. ended in conviction. Of the persons sent up for trial 55 per cent. were convicted. The number of prosecutions decreased in 22 Districts. The biggest decrease is shown by the Henzada District, where prosecutions fell from 481 to 262. Under section 17 of the Act 88 prosecutions were instituted, 68 or 77 per cent. of which were successful. There were 514 prosecutions under the Arms Act as against 570 during 1913. Out of a total of 499 cases tried, convictions were obtained in 483. During the year 75 firearms were seized and 78 were surrendered. A Deputy Superintendent of Police was placed on special duty during the year to trace unauthorized guns and ammunition in Rangoon Town and in the Pegu, Insein, Hanthawaddy and Pyapôn Districts. No fewer than 107 so-called Anglo-Indian hunters were dealt with; the licenses of 51 were cancelled, and in the case of 17 recommendations were made that the privileges enjoyed under the Arms Act be withdrawn.

Non-cognizable crime.

39. There was an increase of 343 true cases of non-cognizable crime, the total number dealt with being 37,586 as compared with 37,243 in 1913. Offences against public justice show an increase of 94 cases, but the chief variations are in offences under Special or Local Laws, which rose by 353. Of the cases dealt with 69 per cent., as in the previous year, ended in conviction. The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried remained unchanged at 62, but the percentage of persons convicted to persons dealt with rose from 51 to 54.

Preventive sections, surveillance and identification.

40. The number of persons dealt with under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure rose from 1,581 in 1913 to 2,380. In many Districts the increases are to be directly ascribed to the outbreak of the war. The percentage of success to prosecutions is 82 as against 79. The larger Districts show good results, Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Insein, Tharrawaddy, Prome, Myaungmya, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn and Toungoo all having percentages of over 80. The largest increases in prosecutions are in the Myaungmya District where they rose from 89 to 347, and in the Pegu, Yamèthin, and Prome Districts where they rose from 58, 102 and 49, respectively, to 221, 252 and 178, respectively. Prosecutions fell in the Henzada and Tharrawaddy Districts by 158 and 96, respectively; in the former it is said that the figures of the previous year were inaccurate, while in the latter it

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is reported that the state of the District did not necessitate more vigorous action. In the Sagaing Division there was a large increase, and beneficial results are said to have followed from the advisable use of these sections. In the Magwe Division an incipient rising was quelled by prompt action under them. Care was taken generally in the selection of the criminals to be proceeded against, and a large number of the cases were enquired into by superior police officers; but in the Yamèthin District, where 20 per cent. of the prosecutions were unsuccessful, the preliminary enquiry would seem to have been insufficient. The figures relating to the surveillance of criminals were revised during the year and the figures given in the annual report for 1913 were found to be inaccurate. The revised figures showed that 11,675 criminals were borne on the surveillance registers of the Province at the end of 1913, with 136 conditionally released persons under police surveillance. The names of 4,138 new criminals and of 55 conditionally released persons were brought on to the registers during the year, and 5,284 names were expunged owing to death, emigration, or a return to honest livelihood. The actual number of men borne on the registers at the end of 1914 was 10,566, while the number of conditionally released prisoners was 154. Of these 1,655 were in jail and 713 were untraced. The percentage of persons untraced is 7 as against 8 in the previous year. Supervision over criminals is reported to be inefficient, but steps are being taken to remedy matters. The number of absconders at the end of 1913 has also been revised, the correct figure now being given as 5,919. During the year the names of 1,347 new absconders were added. Of these 902 were arrested, while 868 names were expunged for various reasons giving a total balance at the end of the year of 5,496 absconders. Of the absconders advertised during 1914, 25 per cent. were arrested, but a large number from previous years are still unaccounted for. The Irrawaddy and Pegu Divisions are still responsible for 3,497. The police identified 4,082 old offenders before sentence and the jail authorities 4 after sentence. During the year 8,551 slips were received for search in the Finger Print Bureau, of which 2,245 or 26 per cent. were traced. Expert evidence was given in 61 criminal and 39 civil cases, and refused in 5 criminal and 4 civil cases. Written expert opinion was also given in 88 criminal and a few other cases. Changes were effected in the constitution of the beat patrols of a few Districts; the total number was reduced by 6 and now stands at 1,512. The average number of square miles to a beat was 128, and the average number of villages in each beat was 30. The number of persons who escaped from police custody was 48 as against 51 in 1913. Thirty of these persons, and three of those who escaped in 1913, were re-captured.

Punitive Police.

41. The punitive police forces employed in the Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts since the close of 1912 continued to work satisfactorily, and check crime. In the former District they were instrumental in stopping cattle thefts to a remarkable extent in the jurisdictions of the two most criminal police-stations, mainly by efficient patrolling. An additional police-force of 12 sub-inspectors, 53 head constables and 123 constables was sanctioned for five years in the Hanthawaddy District from the 1st November 1914. The additional force of 22 sub-inspectors sanctioned for one year in the Henzada District was continued for another year from the 1st April 1914. A small additional force of 1 head constable and 3 constables was quartered as a punitive measure on Gyo village in the Sagaing District from the 19th February 1914. The additional police-force employed for one year from the 1st May 1913 in the Meiktila District was disbanded during the year.

Railway Police.

42. The sanctioned strength of the Railway Police was increased during the year by 3 sub-inspectors, 4 head constables and 17 constables to 435 officers and men. At the close of the year it was short of its sanctioned strength by 1 sub-inspector, 1 European sergeant, and 10 constables. During the year 15 men were dismissed departmentally, 8 men were dismissed or removed after judicial conviction, and the total number of punishments inflicted departmentally was 23 as against 129 in 1913. Eighty-eight recruits underwent training

at the depôt, of whom 49 passed out. The total cost of the force was Rs. 1·67 lakh of which Rs. 50,030 was debitable to Imperial and Provincial funds.

The Railway Police investigated 1,229 true cases during the year as against 1,002 in the previous year. In 71·77 per cent. of these cases convictions were obtained as against a percentage of 66 in 1913. Twelve violent crimes were dealt with as in the past year, of which five resulted in conviction. Under the Excise Act 33 true cases were detected, and seizures of cocaine and ganja amounted to 36,943 grains and 5,442 tolas, respectively. Sixty true cases were dealt with under the Opium Act and 58 convictions obtained. Opium to the amount of 1,608 tolas and 664 grains of morphia were seized. Under the Arms Act 11 true cases were dealt with and 9 convictions obtained. There were 89 absconders on the registers at the close of the year as against 102 in 1913.

Military Police.

43. The sanctioned strength of the Military Police on the 1st January 1915 was 16,484 officers and men, as against 16,369 on the 1st January 1914. A new battalion of six companies was raised for the newly formed District of Putao, but a reduction of five companies was effected elsewhere by the amalgamation of the Magwe and Ruby Mines Battalions with the Chindwin and Mandalay Battalions, respectively. The actual strength of the force on the 1st January 1915, excluding officers of and above the rank of Assistant Commandant, was 15,439 officers and men, or 982 below sanctioned strength as compared with a shortage of 327 on the same date in the previous year. But the conditions produced by the war render the comparison of no value. By the end of the year 1,248 Gurkha and Garhwali volunteers from the force had left for active service in Europe accompanied by 10 British officers. As the ordinary fields of recruiting were shut off, permission was given to fill the gaps made by the departure of these men by enlisting Garhwalis and Gurkhas who had formerly served in the Army or the Military Police, and men of those races residing in Burma not previously trained; 3 companies of Kumaonis, 4 of Kachin and 1 company of Chins were also to be raised. The number of recruits enlisted during the year rose from 1,419 to 2,032, of whom 302 belonged to indigenous races. Of the latter Kachins and Kumaonis were easily obtainable, while among Indian races there was a plentiful supply of Punjabi Mahomedans and Dogras. But, as in the previous year Karens and Sikhs were difficult to obtain. The total cost of the force was Rs. 61·31 lakhs, or an increase of Rs. 3·58 lakhs, ascribed to expenditure incurred in the provisioning of the escorts on the survey operations in the Myitkyina District, the cost of supplying the increased number of the mounted infantry with mounts and saddlery and the cost of moving men bound for the war. In consequence of the additional duties that fell to it in connection with the guarding of Rangoon on the outbreak of the war, the Rangoon Battalion was reinforced by 276 men from other battalions, and this together with the despatch of men to Europe severely taxed the resources of the force. Great difficulty was consequently experienced in supplying Lower Burma with patrols during the dry season, but finally 125 mounted infantry and 138 infantry were allotted for that duty. The conduct of the force as a whole was maintained at its usual high level. There was a slight increase in the number of desertions from 70 to 79, but resignations fell by 70 to 427. Most of the desertions were from the Gurkha Battalion and it is surmised that the men who deserted enlisted in the regular Gurkha regiments or in the Nepaul Levies that were raised on the outbreak of the war. The percentage of punishment for the rank and file was 8·00 as against 7·44 in 1913. Numerous rewards for good conduct and work were awarded. On the whole the year was an unhealthy one in most battalions. Casualties from sickness rose from 572 to 596, and the percentage of admissions to hospital to the average strength of the force from over 80 to over 100. Malaria was the chief cause of sickness, and steady efforts are being made to combat it. The cost of transport fell from Rs. 1·09 lakh to Rs. 1·04 lakh. The number of casualties among transport animals was 129 as against 179, of which 51 were due to surra. Remounts to the number of 431 were purchased during the year and 96 ponies were taken over from two British regiments, who left Burma on active service. The number of casualties was

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128. The annual musketry course, which had become antiquated, was entirely recast and brought up to date. A sum of Rs. 1·30 lakh was allotted during the year for the construction of Military Police buildings, but expenditure fell short of this by Rs. 55,000. A further sum of Rs. 82,000 was allotted for "Petty construction and repairs."

During the year on the frontier a column marched through the Duleng and Akhyang Valley Tracts, where raiders were expected, but no collision occurred. The spirit shown by the force on the outbreak of the European war was excellent. A great percentage of men above the prescribed age not only volunteered but actually petitioned to go to the front. Men recalled from leave came back instantly, and many returned of their own accord, without even receiving a summons. The Bhamo Battalion presented a formal petition to go to the war *en bloc*, thus voicing the general sentiment.

Rangoon Town Police.

44. The sanctioned strength of the Rangoon Town Police, including the Port Trust, the Plague and the Hackney Carriage Police, was at the end of the year 84 officers and 1,242 men. The establishment of the Rangoon Town Police was increased by 1 head constable and 51 constables while that of the Plague Police was reduced by 9 men. The actual strength of the whole force stood at the end of the year at 84 officers and 1,176 men. The shortage of 66 men was due to the difficulty of obtaining good Indian recruits. The Plague Police which had remained a temporary force since its creation in 1898 was made permanent during the year. The total cost of the force for the year of report amounted to Rs. 6,19,184 as against Rs. 6,21,162 for the previous year or a decrease of Rs. 1,978, due to the reduction of the Plague Police Establishment and the shortage in the force. The health of the force suffered owing to the shortage in strength and the great amount of extra work thrown on it on account of the war. Its conduct was on the whole good, though the staff of the Cantonment Police Station is said to have been out of hand during the latter end of the year. There were 22 dismissals, 21 removals and one discharge during the year as compared with 8 dismissals, 25 removals and one discharge in the previous year. Of the 22 dismissals 8 followed magisterial conviction. The men of the Cantonment Police Station were chiefly responsible for the greater part of the increase of 14 in the number of dismissals. The number of minor punishments increased in the case of officers from 5 to 9, but decreased in the case of men from 205 to 162. Resignations during the year amounted to 134, two being among officers. This is a decrease of one officer and an increase of 42 men over the previous year's figures. The reasons given for this increase are the outbreak of the war, the rise in the price of food stuffs and the withdrawal of reservists to the colours. Three officers and 521 men were given money rewards during the year. One officer and 29 men were awarded good service certificates, and 7 officers and 1 man were commended by magistrates. Twenty-nine constables were granted stripes for arresting criminals and one constable was granted the King's Police Medal for conspicuous bravery in saving a child from a burning house. During the year 373 men were trained as against 383 in the previous year. Of these 232 were recruits. Enlistments during the year numbered 224. Burman recruits of a good stamp were readily obtained, but the supply as regards Indians was unsatisfactory both in quantity and quality. No new buildings were erected during the year, but extensions and improvements to the quarters and Police Club in the Mogul Street Guard were carried out. True cases of cognizable crime show an increase of 475, the totals being 12,405 for 1914, as against 11,930 for 1913, but this increase is wholly due to a larger number of prosecutions under special and local laws. Offences falling under the Indian Penal Code decreased by 142, offences relating to currency notes and bank notes showing a decrease of 76, grievous hurt of 34, lurking house-trespass or house-breaking of 18, theft of 13 and criminal breach of trust of 20, while the only important offences to show an increase are murder and robbery, which have increased by 3 and 2, respectively. This decrease in crime has been accompanied by better detection. In 1,062 true cases, convictions were obtained in 725, as against 721 convictions in 1,213 true cases in 1913, the percentage thus rising from 59 to 68. In the case of persons arrested and

convicted the figures remain constant at 80. No rioting or disturbance occurred in the town throughout the year. The total value of property stolen amounted to Rs. 1,19,326 as compared with Rs. 1,50,907 in the previous year and the total recoveries are Rs. 45,491 or 38 per cent. as against Rs. 36,470 or 24 per cent. Petty crime shows an increase of 716 cases, but of these 441 cases are accounted for under public and private nuisances. Prosecutions were instituted in 903 cases under the Excise Act, of which 843 or 93 per cent. ended in conviction, as compared with 730 cases and 671 convictions or 92 per cent. in 1913. Under the Opium Act 455 prosecutions were instituted, of which 428 or 94 per cent. ended in conviction as compared with 530 prosecutions in 1913 of which 502 or 95 per cent. ended in conviction. The police conducted the prosecution in 229 of the cases under the Excise Act and in 45 of the cases under the Opium Act, obtaining 224 convictions in the former and 44 in the latter. Twenty-one cases were sent up for trial during the year under the Gambling Act as against 11 in the previous year. Convictions were obtained in every case. With the assistance of the Chinese Advisory Board, the number of Chinese Clubs in the town has been reduced from 28 to 9, and their office bearers are now the headmen of the several Chinese Societies. These measures have reduced the amount of gambling in the town to a considerable extent. Twenty-one cases were instituted under the Arms Act, of which 19 ended in conviction. The claims of several persons of doubtful nationality to exemption from the provisions of the Act were also investigated. The number of prosecutions under sections 30 and 31 of the Rangoon Police Act amounted to 413 with 378 convictions as compared with 310, with 287 convictions, in the previous year. The provisions of section 43B of the same Act were extended to the segregated area. At the close of the year 393 persons were under police surveillance.

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45. The number of headmen in the Province fell during the year from 17,654 to 17,397. The decrease is due to the amalgamation of small charges on vacancies occurring in the post of headman. The process of breaking up *myothugyi*ships and *taikthugyi*ships continued, and the number of such charges fell from 518 at the beginning to 483 at the end of the year. The amalgamation of charges involved revisions of the territorial jurisdictions of headmen and these were carried out. In the Pyapôn District revision was rendered necessary by the breaking up of unwieldy charges in the sea-board tracts. In the Tharrawaddy District steps were taken to remedy faulty definition of headmen's jurisdictions in the past. Little progress was made in the Toungoo and Tavoy Districts of the Tenasserim Division, but the work of defining and demarcating boundaries continued in the Bhamo and Upper Chindwin Districts. The increase in the number of headmen exercising special powers continued, and at the close of the year special criminal powers were held by 1,507 and civil powers by 1,774 headmen as against 1,333 and 1,660 respectively at the end of 1913. The total amount of fines inflicted by headmen during the year fell by nearly Rs. 20,000, from Rs. 1·78 lakh to Rs. 1·59 lakh, due, it is presumed, to the financial stringency following on the outbreak of the war, which made headmen unwilling to inflict fines that could not easily be paid. The Yamèthin District again returned by far the largest aggregate of fines, *viz.*, Rs. 15,138, but this is accompanied by an abnormally large percentage of cases in which it was found necessary to revise the orders passed by headmen. The percentage of cases interfered with on revision is for the Yamèthin District 62·34, while for the whole province it is 4·15 as against 2·39 in the previous year. This figure would serve to show that the work of headmen in this respect was generally satisfactory. The number of cases examined on revision by District officers increased from 27,369 to 32,042. The revenue work of headmen maintained its usual high standard in spite of the abnormal conditions existing since the outbreak of the war, though some irregularities in *thathameda* assessments were reported from the Meiktila Division. On the other hand the work of headmen in connection with excise matters, as usual, left much to be desired. They were generally ready to assist Excise officers or the police when called upon to do so, but displayed little initiative. The reason for this on doubt is that they receive little support

Village Administration.

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from public opinion in this part of their duties. The relations between the headmen and the police continued to be cordial, and the assistance rendered by headmen in the prevention and detection of crime was, as usual, most valuable. Satisfactory results have attended the experiment of entrusting selected headmen in the Pegu Division with guns for the protection of their villages against dacoits. Considerable attention was paid during the year to the sanitation of villages and apathy in this matter on the part of headmen is said to yield to encouragement. The statistics of punishments and rewards afford matter for congratulation. The number of headmen dismissed decreased from 309 to 271 while suspensions fell from 77 to 75 and fines from 637 to 358. Moreover the number of headmen rewarded rose by 32 from 1,550 to 1,582. Reports are unanimous in testifying to the general popularity of the post of headman. It is much sought after even when the commission is unremunerative, and there is every indication that the general conduct of headmen in the discharge of their duties is steadily improving.

The number of fines imposed on village-tracts, including fines under the "Track Law," decreased from 260 to 195 and the total amount of the fines from Rs. 96,883 to Rs. 72,771. The decreases are particularly noticeable in the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions, where scarcity of money in the closing months of the year was the reason for inflicting comparatively light fines in several cases. The Yamèthin and Myingyan Districts of the Meiktila Division show the largest totals in the number and the amount of fines imposed. In the Yamèthin District 30 villages were fined Rs. 8,629 and in the Myingyan District 20 were fined Rs. 10,148. The Prome District with totals of 16 and Rs. 4,717, and the Tharrawaddy District with totals of 16 and Rs. 4,504 come next. In the majority of cases where fines are imposed, the fines punish failure to offer any resistance to dacoits, and the policy would now seem to be having the desired effect, as in the Pegu Division and in other Divisions as well, numerous instances occurred in which villagers were rewarded for resisting dacoits or otherwise assisting in the maintenance of law and order. The number of fines imposed on villages under the "Track Law" fell from 41 to 26, and the amount of the fines from Rs. 9,187 to Rs. 6,950; but the law in spite of this decline is said to have been administered with vigour and success. The Burma Village Act, 1907, was amended during the year by Burma Act I of 1914 to provide more effective means for preventing persons from attending *pwès* armed with dangerous weapons.

Wild animals and snakes.

46. The total number of persons killed by wild animals and snakes during the year increased by 236 from 1,143 to 1,379. Of the total deaths 67, as against 59 in the preceding year, were caused by wild animals, elephants claiming 11, as against 9, and tigers 30, as against 31. No striking variations are reported from the Districts. The largest increase, 6, which occurred in the Myitkyina District, was mainly due to the presence of two man-eating tigers which appear to be still at large. Snakes on the other hand, accounted for 1,312 deaths or 228 more than in 1913, the increase representing some 21 per cent. of last year's figure. Three Divisions of the province exhibit a slight decrease in this respect, and two others an insignificant increase. The Magwe Division shows a rise of 81 deaths, to which the Magwe and Minbu Districts are the chief contributors. The combined increase in the Henzada, Myaungmya and Pyapôn Districts amounts to 92, and is mainly responsible for the *net* increase of 80 registered in the Irrawaddy Division. A rise of 39 deaths in the Myingyan District has helped to swell the total of the Meiktila Division from 152 to 306. No explanations have been afforded in respect of these statistics. The distribution of Sir Lauder Brunton's lancets has been maintained in many Districts. But areas are to be found where there is no demand for them. In the Magwe District, however, which is one of the chief sufferers from poisonous snakes, the merits of the lancet appear to be better appreciated. Of 216 persons bitten 174 are reported to have been treated with permanganate and 86 cures are claimed.

The total mortality among cattle rose from 14,543 to 16,416. Wild animals accounted for 9,409; the increase over the figure for 1913 is 1,482,

or more than 18 per cent. The Pakôkku District exhibits, on paper, the large increase of 730, but the trustworthiness of previous returns is doubted. The Minbu District, the Chin Hills and the Akyab District also show conspicuous rises of 388, 294, and 142 respectively. No explanation is given of the two latter increases: in the case of Minbu a fairly heavy mortality is to be expected now that the recent introduction of irrigation causes the cattle to forsake the flooded lowlands for the wooded foothills, and the fact that this District returned last year an unexplained decrease of 265 suggests that the fluctuation may well lie rather in the statistics than in the facts behind them. The most noteworthy decrease (162) is reported from the Myitkyina District, and is ascribed to the greater number of tigers and leopards destroyed during the year. Mortality among cattle from the effects of snake-bite has increased by 391, the total standing at 7,007 head, as against 6,616 in 1913. The Henzada and Minbu Districts exhibit the greatest increases, and the Hanthawaddy and Pyapôn Districts show the greatest improvement in this respect.

The number of wild animals destroyed in 1914 is, at 5,017, nearly 300 less than in the previous year. The chief individual decrease is reported from the Akyab District, and is explained by the fact that whereas 340 wild pig were shown as having been destroyed in 1913, no statistics regarding this animal have been supplied for the year of report. Fewer leopards were destroyed in Thatôn, which shows a total decline of 118 from last year's figures. Katha with 795 and the Chin Hills with 667 are the only Districts which return a noteworthy increase. A pleasing feature of the reports is a renewed activity shown in the destruction of snakes. The provincial total of snakes destroyed is 44,299 and has improved by over 28,000. Among the Districts Insein easily heads the list with 29,045, representing an advance of 25,839 over last year's total. Heavy floods are thought to have contributed to successful extermination. In the Tharrawaddy District, where the same rates of rewards are in force, there is a decrease of 1,980, and the complaint is reiterated that the rewards are too small. The improvement noted last year in the Magwe District has been maintained; the increase in destruction has been exactly doubled. The rewards paid for the destruction of wild animals and snakes amounted to Rs. 72,092 and Rs. 5,680 as against Rs. 71,116 and Rs. 1,373 in 1913.

One thousand one hundred and twenty-two fresh gun licenses for the protection of crops and the destruction of wild animals were granted during the year: the total number in force rose from 7,390 to 7,661. The chief contributor to this increase is the Myitkyina District, which had 2,299 licenses in force as against 2,132 in 1913. By far the greater portion of these licenses are held in the Kachin Hills, only 135 referring to the District proper.

Criminal Justice.

General.

47. The administration of Criminal Justice is in Lower Burma under the control of the Chief Court, and in Upper Burma of the Judicial Commissioner. The Chief Court consists of five judges, and the appointment of a temporary additional judge was again renewed with effect from the 2nd November 1914. The judiciary in Lower Burma consisted of 81 European judges and magistrates, 263 native magistrates and 32 Benches of Honorary Magistrates, and in Upper Burma of 77 European judges and magistrates, 135 native magistrates and 9 Benches of Honorary Magistrates. No important legal enactments or rules affecting the administration of criminal justice came into force during the year. An additional Special Power magistrate was appointed in the Prome District. In the Henzada District there was a re-arrangement of courts. At Bassein the appointment of an additional magistrate with special powers was sanctioned for an indefinite period, and a third additional magistrate was appointed for a period of two years from the 1st January 1914. Additional magistrates were again appointed temporarily at Kyaiklat and Kungyangôn, while the appointment of an additional magistrate at Oktwin was made permanent. An additional magistrate was appointed temporarily at Myaungmya. A new Sessions Division, called the Tharrawaddy Sessions Division, and consisting of the Henzada and Tharrawaddy

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Districts was constituted with effect from the 1st April 1914. This necessitated some changes in existing Divisions: the Henzada District was replaced in the Bassein Division by the Myaungmya District, and the remaining two Districts of what was formerly the Delta Division were reconstituted as the Ma-ubin Division; the Sessions Judge, Ma-ubin Division, was appointed Additional Sessions Judge of the Bassein Division, while the Sessions Judge, Bassein Division, was appointed Additional Sessions Judge of the Tharrawaddy Division. During the course of the year temporary additional sessions judges were appointed in the Bassein, Ma-ubin, Tharrawaddy, Hanthawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions.

In Upper Burma, the jurisdiction of the Thazi Township in the Meiktila District was increased by an area of 13·83 square miles, transferred from the Pyawbwè Township in the Yamèthin District. An additional magistrate with first class powers was appointed temporarily in Mandalay. A special magistrate of the first class was appointed for the Sagaing, Shwebo and Lower Chindwin Districts.

Cases.

48. The number of offences reported was 82,508 in Lower Burma and 26,862 in Upper Burma, these figures showing a decrease of 378 and an increase of 1,089 respectively on the figures for 1913. The number of cases returned as true dropped appreciably from 69,199 to 66,107 in Lower Burma, but rose in Upper Burma from 21,916 to 22,087. Of the offences reported in Lower Burma 46,506 were under Special and Local Laws, while 36,002 were under the Indian Penal Code. Of those returned as true 41,610 were under Special and Local Laws, while 24,497 were under the Indian Penal Code, as against 42,509 and 26,690 in 1913. The welcome decrease of 2,193 cases returned as true under the Indian Penal Code is for the most part in cases of hurt, which numbered 5,531 as against 6,312, and in cases of criminal force and assault, which numbered 1,245 as against 1,509; cases of robbery fell from 289 to 219, of dacoity from 181 to 126 and of theft from 6,481 to 6,468; cases of criminal trespass decreased by 203, while the figures under cheating and mischief showed substantial reductions from 433 and 680 to 321 and 585 respectively. The decrease in cases under Special and Local Laws, is on the other hand, smaller, and a comparison between the figures for petty crime under these laws and for the more serious forms of crime falling under the Indian Penal Code indicates a real and substantial decrease of crime in Lower Burma during the year. There were increases of 150 and 448 in cases reported under the Excise and Railways Acts, and decreases of 386 and 1,127 under the Gambling and Municipal Acts. An increase of 1,962 cases reported under "Other Special and Local Acts" is explained by an enormous increase of 1,672 prosecutions under the Rangoon Port Act. In Upper Burma the major portion of the increase of 1,089 in the number of offences reported is due to the activity displayed in prosecutions under the Municipal Act, especially in Mandalay. Variations under the Indian Penal Code are slight: cases of hurt increased by 115 and thefts decreased by 127. The increase under the Municipal Act and Rules was 1,283. In Lower Burma the percentage of true to reported cases was 80·12 as against 83·49 in 1913, and in Upper Burma 80·14 as against 82·99. The number of complaints summarily dismissed rose in Lower Burma from 3,509 to 3,571, and in Upper Burma from 1,075 to 1,167.

Disposal of cases.

49. The number of cases brought to trial in Lower Burma rose from 78,294 to 80,145 and in Upper Burma from 24,933 to 26,237. The number of persons under trial, however, fell in both parts of the Province; in Lower Burma from 134,747 to 133,700 and in Upper Burma from 48,611 to 47,852. At the close of the year 4,559 persons remained under trial in Lower Burma as against 6,427 in 1913, and in Upper Burma 1,380 as against 1,760. In Lower Burma District Magistrates disposed of 660 cases as against 680 in 1913, and Honorary Magistrates of 26,885 as against 25,294. The increase in the work of the Honorary Magistrates was in Rangoon, where they tried 18,830 cases as against 17,070 in the previous year. Of the 127,609 persons whose cases were disposed of by magistrates in the year 37·85 were acquitted or discharged, and 62·15 per cent. were convicted. A greater use was made of the Preventive Sections of the Criminal Procedure Code. Proceedings with a view to demanding security for keeping

the peace were taken in 81 cases involving 141 persons, as against 79 cases involving 143 persons in 1913. The percentage of successful proceedings was 76·47 as against 90. Proceedings with a view to demanding security for good behaviour were taken in 1,979 cases involving 1,992 persons as against 1,298 cases involving 1,368 persons in 1913, and the number approximates to that of 1912. The percentage of successful proceedings is 79·46 as against 74·8. The different Districts show unequal results; in one District the percentage of successful cases was little over 50 per cent. The number of cases committed to Courts of Sessions was 538 as against 562 in 1913. The slight difference is explained by the reduction in cases of robbery and dacoity. At the close of the year 35 persons were awaiting trial as against 116 at the close of 1913. The percentage of conviction was 58·5 as against 57·7. The highest percentages were in Hanthawaddy and Prome standing at 63·72 and 62·09 respectively, while that of Ma-ubin was as low as 33·71. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court during the year was 47 as against 44 in 1913. Forty-seven cases were disposed of in which 82 persons were concerned. The percentage of convictions was 53·66 as against 60·4. The number of death sentences referred to the Chief Court for confirmation was 78 as compared with 124 in the previous year. The death sentence was confirmed in 63 cases as against 70. The average duration of cases for magistrates' courts was 13 days or 1 day less than in 1913. In Courts of Sessions the duration fell from 65 to 56 days, Bassein with 89 having the longest and Arakan with 38 the shortest. The number of witnesses examined again increased from 296,821 to 302,994.

In Upper Burma District Magistrates disposed of 595 cases as against 606 in 1913. The percentage of convictions in trials under their special powers was 66·73 or 1·25 smaller. Of the persons under trial before magistrates 61·81 per cent. were convicted as against 59·88 per cent. in the preceding year. Honorary Magistrates disposed of 5,284 cases, as against 3,248 of which the Bench at Mandalay disposed of 4,103. Security to keep the peace was demanded from 70 and to be of good behaviour from 610 persons as compared with 59 and 446 persons in 1913. The percentage of success was in the former cases 92·11 and in the latter 81·88, or respectively ·08 per cent. less and 1·95 per cent. more than in the preceding year. The number of persons whose cases were committed to Sessions was 194 or 83 less than in 1913. The percentage of convictions was 71·75 or 5·34 larger. It was largest in Sagaing and smallest in Mandalay the figures being 90·47 and 51·72 respectively. The cases of 49 persons were referred to the Judicial Commissioner for confirmation of the death sentence, as compared with 33 in the previous year. The sentences were confirmed in 28 cases as compared with 22. The average duration of cases fell by one day from 12 to 11. The number of witnesses examined was 93,757 as against 96,574 in 1913.

Punishments.

50. The total number of persons punished in courts of all grades in Lower Burma was 79,363 as against 76,098 in 1913. The number of persons sentenced to rigorous imprisonment fell by 199, and of those sentenced to imprisonment with solitary confinement by 70. Punishments of simple imprisonment, fine and whipping rose by 59, 190 and 173 respectively. The number of persons whipped in lieu of other punishment was 1,440 as against 1,280 in 1913, and of those whipped in addition to other punishment 20 as against 7. The punishment of whipping was inflicted on 138 juveniles as against 103. The percentage of actual to possible whippings was 23·22 as against 20·8 in the previous year. The Judges of the Chief Court again call attention to the large number of illegal sentences of whipping passed. The number of short-term imprisonments dropped but only inconsiderably, and the number is still high. The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 5,81,371 as against Rs. 6,50,947, and of this 89·63 per cent. was realized as against 84·7 per cent. in 1913. The amount of compensation paid under section 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure fell from Rs. 34,434 to Rs. 31,877, a big decrease occurring in Rangoon. No particular improvement is noticeable in the use made of section 250 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The number of first offenders dealt with under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was 813 as against 820 in 1913 and there has been a continuous decline for the

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last three years amounting to 149. The Judges emphasise the importance of the section. The number of boys sent to the Reformatory School was 23 as against 20 in the previous year.

In Upper Burma the number of persons punished rose from 26,920 to 27,468. The percentages of sentences of fine without imprisonment to the number punished and of sentences of rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinement were respectively 83·64 and 11·56 as against 82·48 and 12·65 in the previous year. In 149 cases as against 143 in 1913 rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement was inflicted, and in 488 cases as against 478 whipping in lieu of other punishment. The number of persons sentenced to whipping in addition to other punishment was 36 as against 10 in 1913. The percentage of actual to possible whippings was 24·95 as against 27·98. There was a slight rise in the number of persons sentenced to short-term imprisonments. The total amount of fines imposed and realized rose from Rs. 2,81,913 and Rs. 2,59,912 to Rs. 3,08,842 and Rs. 2,70,912 respectively. The amounts of compensation awarded under sections 250 and 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure were Rs. 2,268 and Rs. 21,930 as compared with Rs. 1,208 and Rs. 23,440 in 1913. There was a further decline in the number of persons released under the provisions of section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code, from 410 to 366. The number of boys sent to the Reformatory School was 8 as against 10 in the preceding year and the number dealt with under section 31 (1) of the Reformatary Schools Act dropped from 10 to 2. Magwe and Mandalay were the only Districts to utilize the section. The Judicial Commissioner comments on the failure of magistrates to deal judiciously with first offenders and especially with juvenile offenders, inappropriate and even illegal sentences being passed.

Appeals.

51. The number of appeals in Lower Burma was 8,053 as against 8,537 in 1913. In the Chief Court the number fell still further from 1,308 to 1,241. In Courts of Sessions it fell from 5,566 to 5,398 and in District Magistrates' courts from 1,663 to 1,414. There were no striking fluctuations in the figures of particular Districts or Divisions. The Local Government appealed from judgments of acquittal in 12 cases as in 1913. The percentage of sentences confirmed to the total disposed of was 68·74 as against 69·4. The average duration for all courts was 24 days as against 19 in the previous year. In Upper Burma the number of appeals rose from 2,695 to 2,718. Of these the number preferred to the Judicial Commissioner was 267, to Sessions Courts 1,161 and to District Magistrates 1,290 as compared with 240, 1,354 and 1,101 respectively in 1913. The percentage of confirmation at 62·46 was higher by 2·28 per cent. than in the previous year. The average duration fell by 2 to 17 days.

Revisions.

52. In Lower Burma District Magistrates dealt with 8,590 cases on revision as against 9,151 in 1913, Sessions Judges with 4,126 cases as against 3,610, and the Chief Court with 1,016 cases as against 756. In addition the Chief Court dealt with 223 cases referred to it by District Magistrates and Sessions Judges as against 198 in 1913. In Upper Burma 3,919 cases came before District Magistrates in revision as against 4,056 in the previous year. Fewer cases were called for under the Criminal Justice Regulation, the number being 2,032 as against 2,149, but the number otherwise called for again rose from 1,801 to 1,887. In the former class of cases the percentage of confirmation was 93·54 and in the latter 93·84. In cases before Sessions Judges 97·31 per cent. of the decisions of the lower courts were left untouched. The total number of cases that came before the Judicial Commissioner in revision was 1,177 as against 1,191 in 1913. Of these 1,102 cases were called for on his own motion. In 89·40 per cent. of the cases the decisions of the lower courts were left untouched.

Prisons.

Accommodation.

53. The accommodation for males in the prisons of the Province in the year 1914 reached 15,698 or an increase of 301, and the accommodation for females was

reduced from 354 in 1913 to 324 in the year of report. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 16,652 and the total accommodation available was thus exceeded by 630. Taking into account the convict population alone (15,709), the capacity (14,464) fell short of requirements by 1,245. As usual, nearly all the jails in Lower Burma and several in Upper Burma were overcrowded so far as the convict element was concerned, and at some five jails, even the accommodation for prisoners under trial, was also found to be insufficient. The scheme for the provision of additional accommodation is receiving full attention; jail extensions now in hand will have the effect of increasing the total capacity for convicts by 1,463 or thereabouts. The number of prisoners employed on unremunerative labour rose from 63 to 80. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

54. The year opened with a population of 16,595 prisoners of all classes; 38,948 were admitted and 37,889 were discharged, leaving the number in confinement at the close of the year at 17,654. The daily average strength of all classes was 16,652 or 94 less than in the previous year. A slight decrease occurred under convicts (52) and undertrials (48), while the daily average number of civil prisoners rose by 6. The number of juveniles under sixteen years of age admitted into jail was 128 (122 boys and 6 girls) compared with 167 (158 boys and 9 girls) in the previous year, and 332 juveniles, against 318 in 1913, were sent to the jail to be whipped. The percentage of reconvicted prisoners rose from 25·01 to 27·63, the highest figure appearing at Henzada (46·29) and the lowest at Bhamo (6·34); at the Mejktila Juvenile Jail it was *nil*. Of the 57 juveniles (53 males and 4 females), under the age of fifteen years, admitted during 1914, seven males had been previously convicted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 26 and 1, respectively, all being males. Twenty-four of the 53 male juveniles were transferred to the Reformatory School at Insein. As compared with the previous year, there were decreases of 138 and 110, respectively, in sentences of simple imprisonment and rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement, while sentences of rigorous imprisonment and rigorous imprisonment with whipping increased by 414 and 22, respectively. The identification of habitual prisoners was effected before conviction in 4,929 cases, and in jails in 28 cases. Prisoners.

55. The total number of recorded offences committed by convicts, including offences dealt with by Criminal Courts, was 26,528, against 28,484 in 1913 and 34,269 in 1912, or a fall, in two years, of 22·59 per cent. All classes of offences show a decline, except those dealt with by Criminal Courts which rose from 23 to 25. Penal diet was awarded in 1,917 cases against 1,810 cases in the previous year and 3,031 in 1912. Assaults of a serious nature and which ended fatally numbered four against one in 1913. The number of whippings was 86, the same as in the previous year; of them, 45 were inflicted on habitual and 41 on casual prisoners. The number of escapes was only 2, as compared with 7 in each of the previous two years; both occurred outside the jail. Of the 2 who escaped, 1 was recaptured. In addition, 3 other prisoners who had escaped during the previous ten years were recaptured. Though during the year habitual convicts formed only 40·98 per cent. of the daily average convict population, they received 59·19 per cent. of the total punishments. Apart from two fatal assaults committed by convict officers and an assault on a head warder, the conduct of the convict officers, taken as a whole, was satisfactory and they rendered considerable assistance in the management of the prisoners. Discipline.

56. The total expenditure was Rs. 11·59 lakhs against Rs. 11·68 lakhs in 1913, showing a decrease of Rs. 8,653. The gross cost per prisoner was Rs. 69-10-1, against Rs. 69-12-1 in 1913. The net cost per prisoner rose from Rs. 53-7-0 to Rs. 57-8-0 owing to a decline in the manufacture receipts. The value of vegetables raised in the jail gardens decreased from Rs. 1·04 lakh to Rs. 1·03 lakh and the farm produce from Rs. 34,262 to Rs. 33,641. The saving to Government arising from the employment of prison labour on jail works and repairs was Rs. 30,624, as compared with Rs. 18,516 in 1913. The value of the convict Financial.

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labour supplied to the Jail Branch Press is estimated to have been worth Rs. 56,468 or Rs. 418 less than in the previous year. No credit for this amount is taken in the Jail accounts.

Vital.

57. The ratios, per mille, of admissions to hospital, daily average number sick, and deaths, were 270·00, 14·89 and 17·66, respectively, showing slight variations when compared with the figures for the previous year which were 269·62, 14·75, and 16·24, respectively. The general health of the prisoners may be regarded as fairly satisfactory. All the jails were free from cholera, except Tavoy, where one sporadic case proved fatal. At four jails, *viz.*, Sandoway, Mônywa, Kindat, and Taungdwingyi there were no deaths. Among the central jails Myingyan headed the death rate with 32·59 per mille, and among the District jails Mogôk with 40·82 per mille. Bhamo (46·48), Mogôk (34·91), Katha (34·35), Myaungmya (28·89) and Kyaukpyu (36·46) returned the highest percentage of opium consumers admitted to jail. Of the 294 deaths, 43 were of persons addicted to the drug habit, the drug in most cases being opium or morphia.

Miscellaneous.

58. The Juvenile Jail at Meiktila continued to be worked on the Borstal system. The number of boys admitted was 128 and the daily average for the year was 119, against 138 and 99, respectively in 1913. The training in the various trades continued to be carried out on the principles followed since the opening of this jail in 1909. The conduct of the boys was, on the whole, very good. Grants of tools were made to 5 boys on release, to enable them to carry on their trades. As regards other boys released, new suits of clothes were given to 11, a new suit and Rs. 5 each to 2, while 6 others received money grants ranging from Rs. 2-12-0 to Rs. 10. Of the nine sets of tools presented in the previous year, it has been ascertained that in five cases they are being used to earn a living; in one case the tools were taken back as the boy was not making use of them; in two cases the boys could not be traced, and in the remaining one no information could be obtained. Thus taking into account the results of the year 1912, when 2 out of the 4 boys who received sets of tools were reported to be earning their living by means of them, it will be seen that in nearly 54 per cent. of the cases the grants of tools had a satisfactory result. That the Vernacular School is making satisfactory progress is evident from the fact that, while the highest standard was the 5th in 1912 and the 6th in 1913, it rose to the 7th in the year of report. The School was again favourably reported on by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Meiktila, who, besides commending the masters for the creditable results, brought to special notice the exceptional abilities of a youth who passed the 6th standard. Another lad, from the same standard, was granted, by the Director of Public Instruction, a scholarship of Rs. 10 per mensem and was sent to a Government Normal School on his release from jail. As usual, a *pôngyi* (Buddhist monk) attended the jail weekly; his preaching to the boys is again reported on by the Superintendent of the Jail in very favourable terms. All central jails continued the scheme of manual training for youthful prisoners and one District jail, namely, Toungoo, introduced the scheme, the idea being to instruct young convicts in handicrafts that will be helpful to them in earning their livilihood on release from jail. With a view to materially assisting them in this direction, a certain number of the youthful offenders were each presented with a box of tools. The work done in the various jails, where manual training has been carried on, may be considered as satisfactory, especially when the difficulties to be contended with are taken into account. The Juvenile School at Rangoon was carried on as in previous years and the examination results are believed to be satisfactory. The class formed in 1913 at Thayetmyo for instructing prisoners in reading and writing in Burmese was continued throughout the year and the progress made is reported to have been good. At Mandalay instruction was also carried on with some success. At Bhamo illiterate prisoners are instructed in the Burmese language to fit them for the post of convict officers. The principle of the separation of habitual and non-habitual prisoners was, as usual, observed in all the jails. The scheme for the separation of the two classes at Henzada was not finally completed at the close of the

year under report. Five thousand six hundred and twenty-two convicts were released under the remission rules. Of the convicts who were eligible only one (the same number as in 1913) failed to gain remission, as compared with 10 in 1912. The number of convicts who were awarded remission for continuous good conduct during the year was 2,781, against 2,565 in 1913. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Civil Justice.

59. The administration of Civil Justice is in Lower Burma under the control of the Chief Court, composed of five judges, and in Upper Burma under the control of the Judicial Commissioner. During the year a sixth judge was appointed temporarily in the Chief Court, and with the exception of a short interval an additional judge was entertained in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, throughout the year. The Judiciary in Lower Burma consisted of 38 European judges and 134 native judges, and in Upper Burma of 56 European and 130 native judges. A new Civil and Sessions Division consisting of the Tharrawaddy and Henzada Districts was created in Lower Burma during the year and called the Tharrawaddy Division. This involved a reconstitution of other Divisions. The Bassein and Myaungmya Districts were reconstituted as the Bassein Division and the Ma-ubin and Pyapôn Districts were renamed the Ma-ubin Division. At the same time the Judge of the Ma-ubin Division was appointed Additional Judge of the Bassein Division. Additional Divisional and Sessions Judges were posted during the year to the Bassein, Ma-ubin, Tharrawaddy, Hanthawaddy and Tenasserim Divisions to relieve congestion in the courts. An additional judge was appointed for the Subdivisional Courts of Minbya, Kyauktaw, and Buthidaung. A Civil Subdivision consisting of the Tavoy Township was constituted in the Tavoy District. The Subdivisional Officer at Paungdè was relieved of civil work by the appointment of the Subdivisional Judge of Prome to be also Subdivisional Judge of Paungdè, and an additional judge with special powers was appointed at Prome. A redistribution of civil work was made in the Henzada District. In the Bassein District the Subdivisional Judge, Bassein, was appointed Judge of the Ngathainggyaung Court. The Township Court of Nyaunglebin was invested with the powers of a Small Cause Court. Courts.

In Upper Burma there was no change in the constitution and jurisdiction of the courts.

The total receipts of the courts amounted to Rs. 25·41 lakhs, showing an increase of nearly half a lakh on 1913.

60. The figures for the numbers of suits show no violent fluctuations from those of the previous year and there is no tangible evidence of the influence of the war on litigation. In Lower Burma the total number of suits instituted was 44,154 as against 43,350 in 1913, but the increase was chiefly in the Small Cause Court, Rangoon. Elsewhere slight decreases are generally recorded. There was a drop in suits relating to immoveable property from 1,838 to 1,582 and in matrimonial suits from 639 to 536, a return thus being made to the more normal figures of 1912. There was a fall in mortgage suits from 1,563 to 1,405, and this may be taken as indicating an improvement in the position of mortgagors. Money suits rose from 38,241 to 39,578. The total number of suits before the courts rose by some 400 to 50,467. Of these 45,311 were disposed of as against 44,225 in 1913 and 5,156 were left pending at the end of the year as against 5,847. The decrease in the pending cases before the Township Courts and the Chief Court standing at 575 and 87 respectively are noticeable, and there were satisfactory decreases in Tavoy from 179 to 79, in Amherst from 410 to 306, in Bassein from 319 to 228, and in Henzada from 407 to 259. The total value of the suits for disposal rose from Rs. 150·64 lakhs to Rs. 176·24 lakhs. Of the Rs. 26 lakhs increase Rs. 10 lakhs is accounted for in one suit in the Amherst District, but the suits in the Chief Court show an increase in value of Rs. 5½ lakhs, in the Rangoon Small Cause Court of Rs. 4½ lakhs, and in the Hanthawaddy District Court of Rs. 4 lakhs. The increase in the value of suits in the Rangoon Small Cause Court, accounted for by considerable increases in suits between Rs. 50 and Suits.

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Rs. 500 in value, indicates a striking increase in the work of that court. There were 12,033 contested cases disposed of as against 12,417 in 1913, the percentage of contested cases to total cases disposed of falling from 28·1 in the previous year to 26·5. The Chief Court disposed of 220 contested suits as against 77 in 1913. Plaintiffs were successful either wholly or partially in 67 per cent. of the contested cases, as in 1913. The average duration increased in contested cases from 84 to 88 and decreased in uncontested cases from 50 to 48. In contested cases the Rangoon Small Cause Court and the Township Courts show decreases of 8 and 4 respectively, but District Courts and Subdivisional Courts increases of 25 and 32 respectively.

In Upper Burma the total number of suits instituted declined further from 20,357 to 19,588, the Districts of Yamèthin, Mandalay, Magwe, Sagaing, and Pakôkku, contributing to the decline. On the other hand the Districts of Meiktila, Myingyan, and the Upper Chindwin, show increases. The number of suits relating to immoveable property fell from 966 to 744, and that of suits relating to money or moveable property from 17,883 to 17,315. Mortgage suits declined by 7 only from 741 to 734. Matrimonial suits rose further from 458 to 487. The total value of the suits for disposal again declined from Rs. 30·78 lakhs to Rs. 29·24 lakhs, the Magwe District being responsible for Rs. 2·03 lakhs of this. The Districts of Mandalay, Kyauksè, and the Ruby Mines also report large decreases. On the other hand increases occurred in the Districts of Myingyan, Yamèthin, Lower Chindwin and Sagaing. The total number of cases before the courts for disposal during the year was 21,631. Of these, 19,668 were disposed of as against 20,543 in the previous year and 1,963 cases were left pending as against 1,986. There were 5,206 contested cases, and the percentage of contested cases to disposals was 26·47 as against 27·62 in 1913. In contested cases success attended the plaintiffs in 66 per cent. of the cases, a slight increase of 2 per cent. The average duration in contested cases was reduced from 74 to 73, but lengthened in uncontested cases from 40 to 44, the most marked divergence from the figures of the previous year being shown by the Small Cause Courts, whose contested and uncontested cases took 62 and 38 days respectively, as against 48 and 31 in 1913.

Miscellaneous cases fell in Lower Burma from 5,811 to 5,508, and in Upper Burma from 1,813 to 1,708. The total number of applications for execution in Lower Burma was 33,182, and shows no great change from the figure for 1913, which was 33,650, though the amount realised in execution rose by Rs. 8·49 lakhs from Rs. 20·60 lakhs to Rs. 29·09 lakhs. The amount realised in the Chief Court was more than three times as great as that realised in 1913, and offset a decrease of nearly Rs. 2½ lakhs in the provincial courts. In Upper Burma the number of applications for execution fell from 11,625 to 11,469, but realizations from execution rose from Rs. 5·61 lakhs to Rs. 6·03 lakhs. The increase was principally accounted for by the Yamèthin and Shwebo Districts with increases of Rs. 27,534 and Rs. 9,069 respectively. The percentage of cases wholly infructuous to the total applications disposed of was in Lower Burma 57·69, and in Upper Burma 49·31, as compared with percentages of 56·59 and 48·69 respectively in 1913. The decrease in the case of Lower Burma is ascribed to the care taken of late in applying the provisions of the Civil Procedure Code, which protect agriculturist debtors. Judgment-debtors were committed to jail in 526 cases in Lower Burma, and in 108 cases in Upper Burma, these figures being practically identical with those of the previous year. The working of the Provincial Insolvency Act was again unsatisfactory in both parts of the province. In Lower Burma there was a slight increase from 284 to 316 in the number of applications under the Act, but of the applications filed during the year 206 were by arrested debtors, while voluntary applications showed a further tendency to decrease. No fewer than 123 applications were dismissed, half of the applications filed in the Districts of Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Ma-ubin and Myaungmya, being so disposed of. In Upper Burma the number of applications rose from 232 to 260, and in 62·38 per cent. of those disposed of, as against 47 per cent. in the previous year, the debtors were adjudicated insolvent. But it is surmised, by the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma that the law is still not fully understood by Judges

while the Honourable Judges of the Chief Court are of opinion that the enactment is unsuited to a large portion of the Province. Section 15 of the Act in particular has been almost unanimously condemned, and several amendments to the Act have been suggested. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

61. The total number of appeals before the Courts in Lower Burma was 4,294, as against 4,257 in 1913. Appeals preferred in District Courts fell from 1,931 to 1,829. There was a satisfactory increase in the number summarily rejected, but the percentage of confirmation declined from 65·2 to 61·4 the Districts of Toungoo, Bassein and Akyab showing averages much below the provincial average. The average duration was 63 days as against 65. In Divisional Courts institutions again rose steadily from 521 to 557. The percentage of confirmation fell from 65·6 to 60·2; in the Toungoo District it was as low as 43. The average duration dropped from 147 days to 117. Appeals.

In Upper Burma the Courts had 3,549 appeals before them as against 3,467 in 1913. Of 2,060 appeals for disposal, as against 2,137 in the previous year, District Courts disposed of 1,748, or about 85 per cent., as against 1,717 cases or 80 per cent. The average duration fell from 87 days to 70. In Divisional Courts there were 25 appeals, as against 26 in 1913, for disposal, of which 19 were disposed of. The average duration was 80 days or 28 less than in 1913.

62. The number of suits instituted in the Chief Court during the year was 399 or 13 less than in 1913, and the aggregate value Rs. 57·83 lakhs as against Rs. 52·32 lakhs. The number of suits disposed of was 486, as compared with 291 in the previous year, and the number pending at the close of the year was 301 as against 388 in 1913. This improvement in the state of the business of the Court is due to the fact that two Judges sat on the Original Side instead of one. Of the suits disposed of 220 or 45·27 per cent. were contested as against 77 or 26·5 per cent. in 1913. Plaintiffs were successful in 68·18 per cent. of the contested cases, as against 59·7 in 1913. The average duration rose in contested suits from 325 to 361 days, and in uncontested suits from 197 to 230 days. The rise both in the percentage of contested suits and in the average duration is ascribed to the increase in disposals and the overtaking of arrears. The number of sales of immovable property in execution was 33 as against 43 in 1913 and the amount realised in execution of decrees was Rs. 15·73 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 5·09 lakhs. The number of insolvency cases disposed of was 165 as against 225 and there were 103 cases pending at the end of the year as against 66 at the close of 1913. Other Miscellaneous business on the Original Side consisted of 31 applications for probates, 84 applications for letters of administration, 32 cases under the Guardian and Wards Act and 41 cases under other Acts. There were also 42 applications under the Code of Civil Procedure. The number of appeals preferred was 495 as against 455 in 1913. Of these 367 were appeals against appellate decrees, and 128 appeals against original decrees as against 323 and 132 respectively in 1913. The number of appeals disposed of was 479 as against 372. The average duration of first appeals rose from 486 to 563 days, and that of second appeals fell from 372 to 302 days. Decrees were confirmed in 70·77 per cent., reversed in 20·46 per cent., modified in 7·10 per cent. and remanded in 1·67 per cent. of the total appeals disposed of. The percentage of confirmation in the previous year was 67·5 per cent. The number of cases before the Chief Court in revision was 329 as compared with 353 in 1913. Of these 239 were disposed of as against 222, and 90 were pending at the close of the year. There were two applications for leave to appeal to the Privy Council pending from 1913, and 7 were instituted during the year. The number of applications disposed of was 7. The Chief Court.

63. During the year 999 appeals, including 486 that were pending from the previous year, came before the Judicial Commissioner for disposal, as against 886 appeals in the previous year. Of these 566, as against 400 in 1913, were disposed of, and the year closed with a pending list of 433 appeals, or 53 less than in 1913. Of the disposals, the Additional Judge contributed 327, or 58 per cent. The percentage of confirmation was 60·95, or 4·80 lower than in 1913, and the The Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

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average duration was 313 days, or 71 days shorter than in the previous year. On the Revisional Side the Court had 465 cases before it, as against 418 in 1913; of these, 290 cases, or 72 more than in 1913 were disposed of, while 175 cases were left undecided at the end of the year. The percentage of confirmation was 77·59, and the average duration 272 days as against 77·98 per cent. and 319 days in 1913. The Additional Judge disposed of 73 cases, or about 25 per cent. of the total.

General.

64. Ten persons were admitted as advocates of the Chief Court during the year. One person was enrolled as a first grade pleader, 7 as second grade pleaders and 7 as third grade pleaders. Sixteen first grade, 110 second grade, and 442 third grade pleaders renewed their certificates. The Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma, dealt with 132 cases relating to advocates, as against 126 in 1913. Accommodation for Judges in Lower Burma is reported to be most defective.

Registration.

General.

65. Under an amendment made during the year in the Indian Registration Act, the Local Government delegated the power of appointing Sub-Registrars to the Inspector-General of Registration. Sections 54, 59, 107, 117, 118 and 123 of the Transfer of Property Act were extended to Upper Burma with effect from the 1st September 1914. There were 163 registration offices in the province at the end of the year. New offices were opened at Singaing in the Kyauksè District and Tagaung in the Ruby Mines District, while the Sub-Registration office at Thègôn in the Prome District was amalgamated with the Paungdè Sub-Registration office. Special Joint Sub-Registrars were appointed during the year at Allanmyo, Myanaung and Kyaunggôn.

Deeds registered.

66. The total number of compulsory registrations during the year rose from 64,656 in 1913 with a face value of Rs. 773·34 lakhs to 65,631 with a face value of Rs. 834·49 lakhs. This number of documents registered is the highest on record, and the aggregate value has only been exceeded once before in 1906, when the total reached Rs. 844 lakhs. In that year, however, Rangoon alone accounted for Rs. 353 lakhs, as against only Rs. 151 lakhs in the year of report. Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards fell in number by 2,466 and in value by Rs. 24·71 lakhs. The decrease in value is most marked in Rangoon where a fall of less than 3 per cent. in the number of instruments was accompanied by a fall in value of almost 30 per cent. The Districts of Hanthawaddy, Pyapôn, Insein, and Thatôn, also record considerable decreases, which are attributed generally to the financial and economic conditions occasioned by the war. On the other hand the Districts of Akyab, Prome and Henzada show increases. In Upper Burma transactions were normal, except in the Districts of Magwe and Minbu But in the latter District an increase of Rs. 18½ lakhs is accounted for by one transaction in oil-bearing areas. Instruments of mortgage increased in number by 12½ per cent. from 29,526, to 33,226, and in value by 29 per cent. from Rs. 317·41 lakhs to Rs. 410·48 lakhs. This total value is the highest recorded and exceeds the total of 1906, which was the best hitherto recorded, by 17 lakhs. The average value increased from Rs. 1,075 in 1913 to Rs. 1,235. The increases were shared by most of the Districts in Lower Burma, and the high prices ruling for paddy in the two preceding years are said to have brought them about. The registrations in Book IV were generally, normal, the figures being for documents 6,172 and for aggregate value Rs. 47·72 lakhs, as against 6,205 and Rs. 45·66 lakhs in 1913.

Income and expenditure.

67. The income derived from registration decreased by Rs. 2,395 from Rs. 2·36 lakhs to Rs. 2·34 lakhs. But this is accounted for by the introduction of a new scale of fees in Upper Burma from the 1st January 1914 which resulted in a fall of Rs. 10,630 in the receipts. Expenditure increased slightly from Rs. 1,13,146 to Rs. 1,13,252, an increase in Lower Burma of Rs. 1,727 being counterbalanced by a decrease in Upper Burma of Rs. 1,621.

Joint Stock Companies.

68. The figures for company-promoting reflect the stagnation of trade. At the end of the year 114 joint stock companies with an authorised capital of Rs. 949·52 lakhs, a subscribed capital of Rs. 624·24 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 577·61 lakhs were operating as against 127 companies with an authorized capital of Rs. 1,011·67 lakhs, a subscribed capital of Rs. 657·54 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 592·42 lakhs at the end of the previous year. Only three companies with an authorized capital of Rs. 11·50 lakhs were registered during the year, while 16 companies with an authorized capital of Rs. 73·75 lakhs, a subscribed capital of Rs. 48·06 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 35·25 lakhs were wound up. No new mining company was floated, the objects of the three new companies being banking, sanitary engineering and rice milling; on the other hand five mining and quarrying companies wound up accounted for Rs. 12·51 lakhs of the total paid-up capital of the companies dissolved. The winding up of the Mergui Crown Rubber Estates Limited with an authorised capital of Rs. 22·50 lakhs and a paid-up capital of Rs. 11·25 lakhs was due to its flotation on the London market. Twenty-four companies increased their capital by Rs. 10,000 in the authorised, Rs. 21·25 lakhs in the subscribed and Rs. 21·14 lakhs in the paid-up capital, while twelve companies reduced their subscribed and paid-up capital by Rs. 6·49 lakhs and Rs. 70,030 respectively. The number of companies limited by guarantee remained at the same figure, 10, as in the previous year. Of the aggregate paid-up capital of joint stock companies at the end of the year, mining and quarrying companies accounted for Rs. 327·67 lakhs, followed by milling companies with Rs. 105·89 lakhs. One hundred and sixteen companies established outside British India, filed their papers under section 277 of the Indian Companies Act during the year.

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Local Boards Administration.

69. There are no local boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in Chapter V of this Report.

Municipal Administration.

70. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality for the year exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 1·44 lakh, reaching the figure of Rs. 43·53 lakhs. The ordinary expenditure fell by Rs. 46,000 to Rs. 43·98 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 11-7-11 as against Rs. 10-8-5 in the previous year, and the incidence of income Rs. 15-4-5 as against Rs. 14-12-4. During the second half of the year a revised rate of taxation was put into force, the water, lighting and scavenging taxes being enhanced from the 1st October 1914 by one, one-half, and one per cent. respectively, and the general tax on houses and lands being reduced from 9 to 7 per cent. These changes were not designed to increase taxation, but to distribute the burden of taxation more equitably. The systematic revision of assessments which has now been in progress for some years was stayed temporarily owing to the abnormal situation created by the war; but a revision was undertaken of the assessments on 410 buildings, which urgently needed revision. The assessments on seven mills and factories were also revised and taxation was extended to 895 new properties. A vehicle tax on motor cars, motor cycles, carriages and rickshaws was sanctioned to take effect from the 1st October 1914, but the levy of the tax was postponed till the 1st April 1915. The financial position of the Municipality is dealt with in Chapter V of this Report.

Rangoon Municipality.

The most important measure introduced by the Committee during the year was the revision of the election rules. The qualifications of the electors were raised, a redistribution of the Burmese wards was effected, and the term of office

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of members was extended from two to three years. The draft of a new Municipal Bill was discussed and submitted for the consideration of the Local Government. The fire brigade was maintained in a state of efficiency during the year. The number of fires that occurred in the Municipality were slightly less than in the previous year, but the estimated loss from them was only Rs. 4¼ lakhs as against Rs. 10¼ lakhs. The largest fire occurred at Kandawgale in February 1915 when 600 houses—mostly huts—were destroyed and several thousands of people rendered homeless. The negotiations that were proceeding between the Rangoon Electric Tramways & Supply Co., and the Committee with a view to improving the street-lighting were interrupted by the war and are to be held in abeyance till its close. The water-supply received attention. About Rs. 3¾ lakhs were expended on the pipes for the new 42-inch main to be laid from the Yegu pumping station, and it is intended to make a start on the new high level service reservoir at Kokkaing during the coming year. The total quantity of water supplied to the town during the year was 3,672 million gallons or 10 million gallons per diem. No change was made in the conservancy arrangements, but the sewerage system was extended. A curtailment of the road programme was rendered necessary, as owing to the war contractors were unable to undertake work in connection with the proposed asphalte and granite-sett roads. The cost of the work accomplished on roads during the year was something under Rs. 3 lakhs, and even this sum was expended at a disadvantage, as the Committee were obliged to resurface with macadam certain roads which it had been intended to pave with the more economical asphalte. The widening of the Godwin Road railway overbridge was completed, and the improvement of the Prome Road bridge is to be taken in hand. Several sanitary improvements were introduced in the markets; but the negotiations with the Port Commissioners of Rangoon over the transfer of the Strand Market site and foreshore from the Municipality to the Port Trust have not yet reached a conclusion. Some reclamation work was done, but the Town Lands Reclamation Fund is in low water. The question of the control of the milk supply was again to the fore, and it has now been decided to take such steps to secure control over it as are possible under the Burma Municipal Act, as it stands. For this purpose bye-laws have been drafted and published. The birth-rate for the calendar year 1914 rose slightly from 18·30 to 18·56 per mille on the estimated population, and the death-rate from 29·46 to 31·86 per mille. The substantial improvement recorded for 1913 in the matter of infantile mortality was not maintained during the year, the death-rate per thousand rising from 269·06 to 294·22. A society for the prevention of infantile mortality was inaugurated in July 1914, and since the close of the year has been granted a small subvention by the Local Government. Of the notifiable diseases cholera and small-pox gave little trouble; the former was responsible for 37 deaths only as against 50 in the previous year, while the latter only claimed 13 victims as against 107. The death-rate from plague however rose, as throughout the Province, and was 5·41 per mille as against 3·05. The total number of vaccinations fell on the decline of small-pox.

Minor Municipalities.

71. The number of minor Municipalities was 44 as in the previous year. The boundaries of the Insein and Mandalay Municipalities were revised by the inclusion of new areas which it was considered desirable to bring under municipal control. The amount raised by taxation increased from Rs. 16·62 lakhs to Rs. 17·62 lakhs, and the average incidence of taxation from Rs. 2-6-3 to Rs. 2-8-10. The incidence of income rose from Rs. 6-12-5 to Rs. 7-1-2. A complete revision of assessments was made at Akyab, leading to a substantial increase in the revenues of the Municipality, and assessments were also revised at Insein and Taungdwingyi; the rates of certain service-taxes were enhanced at Myaungmya and Ma-ubin. The fresh imposts levied during the year were a tax on motor-vehicles at Akyab and Paungdè, a latrine tax at Myaungmya and a tax on bicycles at Tavoy. The financial position of the Municipalities is dealt with in Chapter V of this Report. Public health was on the whole better than in the preceding year, a result which is probably due to the sanitary improvements effected in nearly all the Municipalities. There were small outbreaks of cholera

at Akyab, Ma-ubin and Yandoon, and of small-pox at Akyab. As in previous years, plague was prevalent in many towns, the highest mortality of 190 deaths being reported from Kyaiklat, followed by Henzada and Toungoo. There was, however, a marked decrease of 101 to 10 in the number of deaths from this disease at Ma-ubin, of 1,313 to 108 in Mandalay, and of 191 to 6 in Pyinmana. Large allotments were made during the year from the two recurring grants and the three non-recurring grants for urban sanitary improvements to the various Municipalities and towns of the Province. The chief disbursements from the non-recurring grants were Rs. 1,50,000 towards the Pegu water-supply scheme; Rs. 10,000, Rs. 10,710 and Rs. 9,680 to the Shwebo, Bassein and Pakôkku Municipalities respectively towards the cost of sinking experimental tube-wells; and Rs. 10,211 and Rs. 18,542 to the Salin and Bhamo Municipalities respectively towards improvements to bazaars. A sum of Rs. 39,415 given to the Pyapôn Municipality for a new bazaar is being withdrawn as the work has been delayed for want of a suitable site. From the recurring grants, Rs. 72,453 were given to Moulmein towards a sewage disposal scheme, Rs. 34,000 to Toungoo towards drainage, Rs. 50,000 to Sandoway towards a new bazaar, Rs. 50,000 to Akyab towards drainage, Rs. 89,688 to Ma-ubin towards a water-supply, Rs. 23,449 to Sagaing towards various sanitary works and Rs. 23,919 to Prome towards improvements to the bazaar. This aid allowed the expenditure of the Municipalities on sanitary works to increase largely. On water-works it increased from Rs. 63,979 in the previous year to Rs. 3·19 lakhs in the year of report. Pegu spent Rs. 1,50,408 while smaller sums of over Rs. 10,000 were spent by Gyobingauk, Mandalay and Mônywa. The water-works scheme at Pegu was started last year and considerable progress was made during the year of report in clearing the jungle in the catchment area, and also in forming the puddle wall and embankment. Seven Municipalities incurred a capital outlay on works connected with drainage amounting to Rs. 83,238. At Toungoo and Syriam work is in progress on drainage schemes and at Mandalay the scheme for flushing the masonry drains of the town by means of a 20,000-gallon overhead reservoir was completed. At Akyab the construction of 3,926 running feet of masonry drains is reported, but no mention is made in the report of the grant of Rs. 50,000 given towards the drainage scheme, nor does the Kyaukpyu Report mention the grant of Rs. 15,000 given for the reclamation of malarial swamps. The expenditure on conservancy also rose, but the only marked increase occurred at Akyab where the menial staff, bullocks and carts were augmented. Improved conservancy arrangements are reported from Syriam, Kyaiklat and Pyinmana. The sewage disposal scheme at Moulmein was abandoned as it was found to be beyond the means of the Municipality without additional taxation. The expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries increased by Rs. 1·77 lakh, of which Toungoo, where a new hospital was built, is responsible for Rs. 1·13 lakh. An increase of over Rs. 14,000 at Pegu was due to acquisition of land and buildings, and an almost identical increase at Pyapôn to the cost of erecting and furnishing the new hospital. Two pleasing cases of private munificence are reported: one from Sagaing where Mr. Sohan Singh, a member of the Municipal Committee, presented to the Municipality a maternity ward of four beds, and the other from Pyapôn, where two leading gentlemen of the town headed a subscription list for the supply of electric power to the hospital with donations of Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 500 respectively. Expenditure on markets and slaughter-houses declined on the completion of works in Pegu and Paungdè, but increased expenditure was incurred in several Municipalities in substituting rat-proof floorings for existing wooden structures. Expenditure on Public Safety remained more or less constant; good service is said to have been rendered by the Volunteer fire-brigades at Moulmein and by ward-headmen at some of the other Municipalities on occasions of fire. A scheme of electric street-lighting was carried out at Mandalay during the year and proved so successful that proposals are on foot to extend it. Expenditure on public instruction increased, Ngathainggyaung, Toungoo, Sandoway and Kyaikto incurring the largest percentages of expenditure on education. The accounts of 29 Municipalities were audited during the year; and a proposal is under consideration for a more frequent audit of municipal accounts. Serious embezzlements of municipal

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revenues occurred at Mandalay and Akyab during the year. In both cases the embezzlements were due to a failure to observe the rules prescribed and lack of effective supervision. Less important embezzlements were also reported from Mergui and Bassein.

The number of notified areas was 19 as in the previous year. The boundaries of Kalaw were revised by the inclusion of a small area transferred from the Yamèthin District to the Southern Shan States. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-1-4 to Rs. 2-2-9 while that of income rose from Rs. 7-8-2 to Rs. 8-8-8. A large increase in the receipts and expenditure of these areas also is due to substantial grants made by Government for sanitary improvements. Plague alone of epidemic diseases gave any trouble. Nattalin, Danubyu and Thôngwa report slight outbreaks, but the only serious visitation was suffered by Pyawbwè.

Military.

Strength of the garrison.

72. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of the Province on the 31st March 1915 stood at 7,609 officers and men, of whom 2,057 were Europeans, as against 9,348 officers and men, of whom 3,432 were Europeans, at the end of the previous year. In the Indian troops there were 83 British officers and 5,469 men of other ranks as compared with 113 British officers and 5,803 men of other ranks on the same date in 1914. British officers on the staff are not included in these figures.

Military works.

73. The expenditure on military works during the year was Rs. 4·80 lakhs as against Rs. 4·64 lakhs in the previous year. No important works were undertaken during the year. Quarters were built for the Sergeant-Instructor of the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles at Yenangyaung; improvements were carried out on the rifle ranges at Thamaing; and a new slaughter-house was built within the Cantonment at Mandalay. In Rangoon the construction of three officers' quarters was begun, and in Mandalay a market in the northern town and dhobies' quarters in Fort Dufferin were completed for the Cantonment authorities.

Military (Volunteering).

74. There were, as in the previous year, six Volunteer Corps in Burma during the year. The Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, and the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps have their headquarters in Rangoon, the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles in Mandalay, and the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Moulmein Volunteer Rifles in Moulmein. Excluding 39 members of the South Andaman Volunteer Rifles, which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the total strength of the Volunteer force in Burma on the 31st March 1915 was 4,465 adults, 1,039 cadets, and 208 reservists as against 3,324, 748, and 238 respectively in 1914, and the number of efficients was 5,283 as against 3,757. The capitation grant earned was Rs. 1·97 lakh as against Rs. 1·45 lakh.

Some slight changes were introduced during the year. Two troops of Mounted Rifles in the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps were abolished, and in their stead three additional companies were constituted, of which one was a mounted company, and two infantry companies. Sanction was granted to the formation of a Scotch company as an additional company attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifle Corps. The headquarters of "B" company of the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps were transferred from Prome to Letpadan, and sanction was granted to form the detachments of "C" company of the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles at Namtu, Hsipaw, and Lashio into a separate company with headquarters at Namtu. The Burma Chamber of Commerce addressed the Local Government during the year, proposing a scheme for compulsory military service for all British-born and Colonial British subjects in India between the ages of 17 and 30 and the matter was referred for the consideration of the Imperial Government.

Marine.

75. Work was continued on the improvements at the Alguada Reef Light-house, estimated to cost Rs. 2·19 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 33,732 bringing the total expenditure to date to Rs. 1·19 lakh. The boat-dock was deepened and the rocks at its entrance were blasted and removed. No construction however on the damaged portion of the chasm wall could be undertaken for want of steam waftage for stone and other material to the reef. The work done in the previous year in closing the breach in the wall has stood well. A sum of Rs. 19,370 was expended on improvements, estimated to cost Rs. 38,703, on the Reef Island Light-house. New fittings for improvements to the China Bakir Light-house were in hand, and the work of erection will be undertaken in the following year. The four clock-work machines, which were obtained from England for the light-houses at Savage, Beacon, Table and Green Islands, were installed during the year, the work being completed for Rs. 10,151. The unattended Wigham's patent light at Zallataung was exhibited from the 1st October 1914 and worked satisfactorily. The R.I.M.S. "Mayo" was the station vessel during the year, carrying out reliefs in connection with the light-houses and light-ships, and conveying provisions, stores, materials and workmen. On two occasions during the year she was detailed for military duty in connection with the transport of troops, reaching Colombo, Madras, Port Blair and Singapore. There were no deaths from sickness at the various light-stations, and the health of the light-keepers and crews of the light vessels was good throughout the year. The F.L.V. "Kemmendine" stationed at the Spit, and the F.L.V. "Kalagauk" stationed at the Krishna Shoal were docked during the year for their annual overhaul, their places being taken by the relief vessel "Martaban". The total expenditure on light-houses and light-ships rose from Rs. 1·82 lakh to Rs. 2·07 lakhs, while the receipts from Coast Light dues fell from Rs. 4·56 lakhs to Rs. 3·68 lakhs.

Port Administration, Rangoon.

76. The Rangoon Port Trust was another institution that was affected by the war; it suffered less however than might have been expected. The receipts on revenue account amounted to Rs. 45·38 lakhs as against Rs. 51·85 lakhs, and the expenditure to Rs. 41·30 lakhs as against Rs. 37·03 lakhs in the previous year, showing a gross surplus on the year's working of Rs. 4·08 lakhs. Of this surplus Rs. 1·45 lakh was allocated to the reserve funds, and the balance of Rs. 2·63 lakhs was carried forward to the net revenue account. Though the receipts declined, as compared with the receipts of the previous year, by Rs. 6·47 lakhs, they were nearly Rs. 1·50 lakh in excess of the figure for 1912-13, itself a year of great prosperity. The capital debt of the port on the 31st March 1915 after deducting the sum of Rs. 37·27 lakhs at the credit of the sinking fund account amounted to Rs. 2,61·35 lakhs as against Rs. 2,67·88 lakhs on the same date in 1914. The net expenditure, excluding discount on loans charged to capital account, up to the 31st March 1915 was Rs. 3,43·82 lakhs, the expenditure during the year amounting to Rs. 12·79 lakhs. No debenture loan was raised during the year, but Rs. 9·50 lakhs were advanced temporarily from the net revenue account.

The Customs returns for the year show that 82·02 per cent. of the foreign and coasting trade of the Province passed through Rangoon. The imports into Rangoon amounted to 1,048,848 tons, and the exports from Rangoon to 2,739,693 tons; of the former 56·9 per cent. was handled by the Port Commissioners at their wharves and jetties, and 15·5 per cent. of the latter. Of the inland trade 663,097 tons passed through the Commissioners' premises during the year. These figures show a decline on the figures for the previous year, and the receipts of the Traffic Department declined in sympathy from Rs. 25·63 lakhs to Rs. 22·80 lakhs. The expenditure fell from Rs. 9·22 lakhs to Rs. 9·05 lakhs, salaries and general expenses increasing, but labour charges and the amount spent on minor works decreasing. The receipts of the Port Department were Rs. 7·79 lakhs as against Rs. 8·14 lakhs in 1913-14 and the expenditure Rs. 6·12

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lakhs as against Rs. 4·75 lakhs. The activity of the German cruiser the "Emden" and the impressment of various units of the mercantile marine by Government had a direct effect upon the volume of shipping visiting the port. Excluding Government vessels, 1,231 steamers with a total net registered tonnage of 2,415,110 tons arrived in the port. The decrease in tonnage on the previous year was 522,111 tons and the number of steamers that arrived is the smallest recorded during the last ten years. A new item of one lakh of rupees for dredging accounted largely for the increased expenditure. Under a new head "River Conservancy," which includes the maintenance of the River Training wall and the survey of the lower river, a sum of Rs. 86,313 was spent, while there was a rise of nearly two lakhs of rupees under Interest and Sinking Fund charges. No new work of any magnitude was undertaken by the Engineering Department during the year. The River Training Scheme was practically completed in the previous year 1913-14 and had been officially inaugurated on the 17th February 1914; all capital expenditure on it ceased on the 31st October 1914 and the final cost of the work was Rs. 138·27 lakhs as against an estimate of Rs. 150 lakhs, a noteworthy saving of nearly 12 lakhs of rupees thus being effected. Every expectation with regard to the work appears to have been fulfilled. The deep water channel has resumed its former position, the shoals which threatened the left bank of the river have diminished, the reclamation of the area behind the training wall has rapidly continued, cross currents have lessened in strength, and the more natural parallel courses of the ebb and flood tides have rendered the river alongside the wharves less liable to the deposit of silt. The subject of the provision of a dry dock for Rangoon was again considered during the year but was again postponed for financial reasons. Dredging the Hastings Shoal and river surveys were carried out with a view to maintaining a permanent deep water channel at the entrance of the harbour, but these matters are more fully dealt with in paragraph 82 of this Report. Two riverine properties were purchased during the year; the Hazlewood estate at Monkey Point, measuring 10·37 acres at a cost of Rs. 7·50 lakhs, and the Rowett's bazaar estate on the Pazundaung creek measuring 7·79 acres at a cost of Rs. 1·95 lakh, the expenditure being charged to capital account.

Pilot Service, Rangoon.

77. The Rangoon Pilot Fund had at the beginning of the year an opening balance of Rs. 65,040. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 3·03 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 3·25 lakhs, the excess of expenditure over receipts being Rs. 21,786, and reducing the balance at the close of the year to Rs. 43,254. The gross pilotage fees fell from Rs. 3·54 lakhs to Rs. 3·03 lakhs and the disbursement to pilots from Rs. 2·55 lakhs to Rs. 2·25 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 21,000 was allocated to the vessels' depreciation fund as in the previous year, and the investment account of the fund, was brought up to Rs. 1·97 lakh. The pilot fund is, however, now being worked at a loss, and its state was not satisfactory. The Port Commissioners have given their attention to measures to be adopted for the re-establishment of the fund on a sound basis, and proposals to that end are to be framed in the near future. The pilot service was well maintained during the year, and no serious delays were caused to shipping. Only three cases of slight delays occurred. Following the report of the Committee that sat in the previous year and held an enquiry into pilotage matters, changes were effected in the pay of pilots under probation, the lighting of the river, and the command of the pilot vessel, while the provision of a steam pilot vessel and a pilot launch were dealt with. Progress was also made with legislation designed to give the Port Comissioners fuller control over the Rangoon pilots. Amendments were framed and as the Rangoon Port Act of 1905 had been amended more than once, it was decided to consolidate it, and incorporate in it the proposed provisions regulating the pilot service. The consolidated Act was under the consideration of the Local Government at the close of the year.

Minor ports.

78. Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust, there are six ports in the Province, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Moulmein, Mergui and Tavoy, in which Port Funds are maintained. The total receipts and expenditure of these funds were Rs. 4·23

lakhs and Rs. 4·83 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 5·62 lakhs and Rs. 6·01 lakhs respectively in the previous year, and the combined closing balance fell from Rs. 2·97 lakhs to Rs. 2·38 lakhs. In the Moulmein, Akyab, Mergui, and Kyaukpyu Port Funds, expenditure exceeded receipts. In the case of Moulmein the balance fell from Rs. 73,779 to Rs. 28,973. Some months after the beginning of the war this fund found itself in difficulties and measures of relief, until the routine of the port could be resumed, were sanctioned by the Local Government, consisting of the deferment of the payment of the instalment and interest amounting to Rs. 15,908 due on the Government loan, the suspension of the annual charge of Rs. 3,000 for the Insurance fund, the discharge of nearly the whole crew of one river survey launch, and the discharge of the survey staff attached to one river surveyor. The temporary utilisation of a sum of Rs. 9,000 in the Insurance fund was also allowed, but only as a last resource in the event of the embarrassment becoming acute. The closing balances of the other five funds were satisfactory. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Outside Rangoon there are pilot funds at Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. Expenditure exceeded receipts in all these funds, and the closing balances of the year were Rs. 7,957, Rs. 3,910 and Rs. 4,028 as compared with Rs. 8,911, Rs. 9,530 and Rs. 11,961 at the beginning of the year. These funds derive their income chiefly from pilotage fees and the expenditure consists mainly of the cost of the maintenance of pilot vessels and payments to pilots. The total receipts during the year were Rs. 96,702 and the total expenditure was Rs. 1·11 lakh, as against Rs. 1·40 lakh and Rs. 1·35 lakh respectively in the previous year. Port Officers appointed by Government and assisted by advisory boards continued to manage the ports of Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. The administration of the ports of Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioner. These three ports have no pilot funds.

79. Shipping, like trade, was seriously affected by the war. During the year 3,766 vessels with a total tonnage of 3,355,534 tons entered ports in Burma as against 4,209 vessels with a tonnage of 4,331,987 in 1913-14. The clearances likewise fell from 4,122 with a tonnage of 4,362,992 tons to 3,505 with a tonnage of 3,325,296 tons. The total number of entries of vessels engaged in the foreign trade of the Province was only 391 with an average tonnage of 2,345 tons, as compared with 506 vessels, with an average tonnage of 2,542 tons in the previous year. The clearances were 457 vessels with an average tonnage of 2,312 tons as against 592 vessels with an average tonnage of 2,453 tons. The entries into Rangoon from foreign ports were 263 with a tonnage of 775,819 tons, as against 326 with a tonnage of 1,001,256 tons, and the clearances 313 with a tonnage of 909,897 tons as against 395 and a tonnage of 1,180,159 tons, all these vessels with the exception of one sailing ship of 172 tons burthen being steamers. In the coasting trade the number of entries of sailing craft increased from 1,372 vessels in 1913-14 to 1,509 in the year of report, but the actual tonnage was slightly less, being 51,254 tons as against 51,684 tons. There was no material change in the number of sailing craft cleared, but the tonnage was appreciably less. In the case of steamers in the coasting trade both entries and clearances show an appreciable decline. In the year of report 1,866 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 2,387,387 tons entered, and 1,809 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 2,224,347 cleared, as against 2,331 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 2,994,023 tons entering and 2,283 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 2,863,466 tons clearing in the previous year. Of these vessels in the coasting trade 966 steamers with a tonnage of 1,634,419 tons entered Rangoon, as against 1,147 with a tonnage of 1,937,540 tons in 1913-14, and 911 steamers with a tonnage of 1,484,802 tons cleared, as against 1,086 with a tonnage of 1,774,144 in 1913-14 while 100 sailing ships with a tonnage of 7,938 tons entered, as against 118 with a tonnage of 9,655 tons and 96 with a tonnage of 7,646 tons cleared, as against 118 with a tonnage of 9,707 tons in the previous year. The total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the port was 17·99 per cent. less than in 1913-14 and was the lowest recorded since 1908-09. Commercial marine: shipping.

Of the 391 steam and sailing vessels that entered the ports of the Province from foreign ports during the year, 303 or 77·49 per cent. flew British colours.

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Of the 88 vessels flying foreign colours, 29 were Japanese, 28 Norwegian and 8 Dutch. In the previous year, of the 506 vessels entering 371 or 73·32 per cent. flew British colours, and of the 135 vessels flying foreign colours, 48 were Japanese and 15 Dutch. Norway has thus taken the place of Germany and Austria which in 1913-14 claimed 26 and 22 ships respectively. In the coasting trade 1,583 vessels as against 2,031 in the previous year, flew British colours, and 86 as against 93 flew foreign colours. The number of native craft was 1,024 as against 1,053. In the foreign trade of Rangoon 188 vessels entered under British colours as against 235, and 75 under foreign colours as against 91, in 1913-14. Of the latter 29 were Japanese, as against 48, 23 Norwegian as against none and 8 Dutch as against 11, in the previous year. Two hundred and twenty vessels cleared under British colours as compared with 280 in the previous year and 93 under foreign colours as against 115. Of these 27 were Japanese, 22 Dutch and 23 Norwegian. In the coasting trade 973 British vessels (including 97 native craft) and 93 foreign, entered as against 1,149 and 116 respectively, while 930 British vessels (including 92 native craft) and 77 foreign, cleared as against 1,112 and 92 respectively. The foreign entries included 36 Japanese vessels, 28 Dutch and 13 Norwegian, while the foreign clearances comprised 36 Japanese vessels, 14 Dutch, and 13 Norwegian.

The commencement of the year saw the freight market weak, and rates continued to drop steadily till the month of August, when the outbreak of war brought about a rapid change of position. Ships were requisitioned by Government for trooping and other purposes, and the German and Austrian mercantile fleets disappeared from active trade. In the absence of competition and owing to a lack of tonnage rates rose considerably, until at the end of the year the freight per ton for a steamer homeward-bound from Rangoon was 80 shillings as against an average rate for the four preceding years of 25·9 shillings.

Commercial marine: wrecks and casualties.

80. During the year there were only 12 accidents in the Port of Rangoon, a further decrease of 3 on the already short casualty list of the previous year. Of the 12 accidents reported 11 occurred while a vessel was in charge of a pilot or assistant harbourmaster. None were serious and in only one case was it found necessary to censure the officer concerned after an enquiry under the British Burma Pilots Act. Reports were also received of a collision at sea between the British India Steam Navigation Company's P.S. "Ramapoora" and the tug "Eclipse" belonging to the same company, on the night of the 22nd January 1915, of the grounding of the British India Steam Navigation Company's S.S "Bhadra" on the 21st August 1914 on a voyage from Rangoon to Moulmein, and of the foundering of the brig "Amanatsha" of Cuddalore east of the Nicobar Islands in August 1914. In the first of these accidents the tug "Eclipse" suffered some damage, in the second the "Bhadra" was refloated after a few hours, and in the third the crew were saved and sent back to Cuddalore. No action was deemed necessary under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act in either of the first two accidents.

Government steamers and launches.

81. The two Royal Indian Marine vessels "Sladen" and "Bhamo" carried by river some one thousand three hundred troops and followers, besides women and children, convicts, transport animals, ammunition, 6,140 tons of stores and Rs. 19·55 lakhs of specie. Their total earnings rose again from Rs. 1·82 lakh to Rs. 2·02 lakhs, the "Sladen" showing an increase and the "Bhamo" a decrease. The former vessel proceeded from Upper Burma to Rangoon on the 1st June 1914 for general overhaul, and on completion of repairs, was employed for the remainder of the year as an examination vessel in the Rangoon River. Two new steam-launches, two flats, one house-boat, and seven motor-launches were added to the Government flotilla, while one motor-launch was written off and one steam-launch broken up at the Government Workshop, Rangoon. Four of the new motor-launches were obtained from England for the use of the Police department in the Delta. At the close of the year the Government flotilla comprised 150 vessels, consisting of 89 steam-launches, 13 flats, 13 house-boats, 5 dredgers, 10 motor-launches, 4 light-ships, 3 barges, 3 steam-barges, 2 buoy

vessels, 2 mooring-boats, 2 cargo boats, 1 steam-cutter, 1 rock-smashing boat, 1 water boat, and 1 boat for the conveyance of transport animals. The steam-launch "Tenasserim" foundered off Wegale creek on the night of the 26th August 1914, while on a voyage from Amherst to Moulmein. She was salved shortly afterwards and extensive repairs to her were carried out at Moulmein. The total earnings of Government vessels rose from Rs. 5·16 lakhs to Rs. 5·61 lakhs, the vessels employed in Lower and Upper Burma showing increases of Rs. 26,082 and Rs. 19,489 respectively. Fourteen vessels in Lower Burma and eleven in Upper Burma earned more than the cost of their up-keep. The steam barge "Tara" in Lower Burma showed a profit of Rs. 15,882 and the steam-launch "Freebooter" in Upper Burma a profit of Rs. 15,183. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Government flotilla, including 4 per cent. on their estimated present value, increased from Rs. 8·33 lakhs to Rs. 9·58 lakhs. The principal increase was in the cost of repairs incurred in Lower Burma, the expenditure there rising from Rs. 58,778 to Rs. 1·13 lakh. The vessels throughout the Province were satisfactorily employed and kept in a state of efficiency. The fuelling arrangements which are carried out by the Forest Department continued to give satisfaction. The outturn of work during the year of report at the Marine Workshop, Mandalay, amounted to Rs. 1·01 lakh against Rs. 1·19 lakh in 1913-14. The decrease was due to a smaller demand for sawn timber; and many orders could not be complied with on account of the difficulty in obtaining suitable logs. The total cost of repairs carried out to vessels at the Government Workshop, Rangoon, was Rs. 2·01 lakhs as compared with Rs. 62,789 in the previous year, the large increase being accounted for by a number of private-owned launches employed on Military duty coming in for repairs as well as work done in connection with the defence of Rangoon.

Marine works and surveys.

82. The maintenance of a permanent deep water channel at the entrance of the Rangoon harbour again claimed attention during the year. The new drag suction hopper dredged "Cormorant" was employed for eleven months on the Monkey Point Channel, and the Danidaw reach, and through the dry season a channel averaging 14 feet at low water, and showing an improvement of 6 feet in depth over the previous year, was kept open across the Hastings shoal. Owing to the rapid silting, however, that takes place in the dry weather in that locality, it has become evident that one dredger is insufficient for the work and a second dredger will be required. The other channels in the river maintained their normal depths. At the beginning of the year an estimate of Rs. 88,000 was sanctioned for an engineering survey of the lower harbour with a view to a complete investigation of the hydraulic conditions of the river system in the neighbourhood of the Hastings shoal, and the formulation of a scheme for the improvement of the navigable channels across it, and good progress was made with the survey. New surveys of the river bed in the Rangoon harbour, from North D'Silva Point to Kyauktan or Hmawun creek, and from Elephant Point to Fairway buoy, were also taken in hand and completed. It was again found necessary to move the Elephant Point lights to a new site about 200 feet southward and inland owing to the erosion of the river bank in the vicinity. Outside Rangoon the Royal Indian Marine ship "Investigator" completed the survey of the Victoria Point anchorage and approaches including the Pak Chan river as far as Maliwun, and examined the new volcanic island that appeared early in the year south of Baronga Point in the Akyab District. Harbour works included the erection of beacons in the Palaw river and in the Mergui Archipelago at a cost of Rs. 10,000, the erection of two wharves at Kyonmange in the Myaungmya District, the extension of the Naukle wharf at Mergui at a cost of Rs. 43,828, and the construction of a jetty at Kyetsabyin in the Tavoy District at a cost of Rs. 38,073.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Occupied and cultivated areas.

83. The occupied area in the Province is now 18,116,847 acres. The rate of expansion in 1914-15 was less than in the previous year, the area taken up in the year for agricultural, residential and industrial purposes being approximately 178,000 acres as compared with 256,000 acres in 1913-14. The total fallowed area was 3,877,547 acres, which shows a slight increase on the figures of the previous year, the percentage of occupied area which was fallowed being about 21·4 per cent. as against 21·1 per cent. in 1913-14. The area actually cultivated during the year was 14,239,300 acres, an increase of over 91,000 on the total of 1913-14. On the other hand only 13,200,560 acres yielded a matured crop, a decrease of 391,066 acres on the figures of the previous year. The large amount of fallowed area is explained by the peculiar conditions of agriculture in the dry zone of Upper Burma, where the area cultivated in a holding is frequently a very small proportion of the area occupied. The three dry zone Divisions, Magwe, Meiktila, and Sagaing, were together responsible for over 3,000,000 acres of the fallowed land. The two chief causes which contributed to the decrease in the matured area were drought and untimely rains in Upper Burma, and flooding in Lower Burma. The gross area cropped inclusive of areas which failed amounted to 14,792,542 acres. This total shows an increase of 120,438 on the returns of 1913-14 which were the best on record. The area twice cropped also showed a corresponding increase and amounted to 555,242 acres. All the principal Districts in Lower Burma, in which rice is the main crop, save the Amherst District, show an increase in the area occupied. The Districts showing the greatest expansion are Pegu, Bassein, Pyapôn, Myaungmya, Ma-ubin and Tharrawaddy, and the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions were in fact responsible for nearly 100,000 acres of the

increase in the occupied area. The fact that settlement operations lately took place in Pegu and Bassein probably accounts for part of the increase, as the Land Records Department are working on revised area statements. In Pyapôn and Myaungmya waste land is still available, and the stream of emigration has set towards these Districts. In Tharrawaddy the increase in occupied area is attributed in great part to the Paukkon-Aingtalok bund—a private venture—which has afforded a certain amount of protection to the riverine tract of land north of Tharrawaw. In Ma-ubin there is a belief that the general level of the country is steadily rising, and that land which is at present flooded will therefore at no very distant date become culturable.

The increase in the occupied area was to some extent neutralised in the majority of the Districts by an increase in the area fallowed. There was also an increase in the area on which crops failed to mature, due to the action of floods. The Districts that suffered most in this respect were Ma-ubin, Thatôn, Toungoo, Amherst and Insein. In the Ma-ubin District over 61,000 acres failed to mature, and in Insein over 30,000. In Upper Burma the Meiktila and Sagaing Divisions between them show an increase of 55,000 acres of occupied area, while the Magwe Division shows a slight decrease. All the Districts except Thayetmyo, Magwe, Meiktila and Yamèthin, show a considerable increase in the area fallowed. In the north of the dry zone the early rains in the year of report were unfavourable, and the acreage left fallow in the Districts lying in the area was correspondingly large. On the other hand in the Magwe, Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts plentiful early rains led to an increase in the area sown. The later rains were generally unfavourable, with the result that, though in six Districts a much less area was under the plough, the failures were most extensive. The Districts most seriously affected by these failures were Sagaing, Lower Chindwin, Pakôkku, Shwebo and Myingyan. In the Sagaing and Shwebo Districts, where 71,944 and 38,553 acres respectively failed to mature, considerable damage was done by floods from the Mu river.

The total area under rice amounted to 10,522,905 acres, or an increase of 191,276 acres as compared with 1913-14. There was an increase in the area under wheat, particularly in the Sagaing and Meiktila Divisions, to 29,221 acres. The area under red and white millet shows a decline of 106,000 acres to 651,239 acres, due to the early favourable rains, which led to a substitution of a rice for the millet crop, grown in the year 1913-14, mainly in the Pakôkku, Meiktila, and Yamèthin Districts. The area under gram and pulses increased to 47,717 acres. An incentive to the cultivation of peas and beans was the satisfactory prices realized in the previous year on these crops; over half a million acres were sown with beans during the year. An expansion to 874,270 acres of the area under early sesamum followed naturally the favourable early rains, and left a smaller area available for late sesamum, which shrank to 336,491 acres. Groundnut continued in favour and during the year some 273,000 acres were cultivated with this crop. At present the bulk of the cultivation is practically confined to three Districts in Upper Burma: Myingyan, Pakôkku and Magwe. There was a decrease of over 14,000 acres in the area under chilly, about one-fifth the area under this crop in the previous year. The cultivation of sugarcane remained stationary; this is to be regretted considering the enormous imports of sugar into the Province. The area under cotton shows a slight decrease to 291,112 acres. The area under tobacco continued to fall, but rubber cultivation expanded and some 57,785 acres are returned as under this crop, though the greater part of the area is still unproductive.

Area irrigated.

84. The season was favourable for irrigation, and 1,133,048 acres were irrigated during the year. The irrigable area is estimated at 1,583,512 acres. The increase for the year of the area actually irrigated is over 60,000 acres, while the increase in the estimate of area irrigable, is 50,000 acres. The area irrigated from "Government Canals" declined by nearly 30,000 acres. All the major works contributed to this decline. In the Mandalay District the headworks were breached in 1913-14, and repairs were not completed before it was time to supply water. In the Kyauksè District floods during the year damaged the headworks

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

of the Panlaung and Zawgyi systems and threw land out of cultivation. Serious rises in the Môn river damaged the South Môn Canal, and it was found impossible to work the canal at its full power, with the result that the high lands received an inadequate supply of water. In the Salin Canal area the Myaungmadaw Canal was seriously damaged and could not be repaired: but gram was substituted for rice in areas in which a supply of water was not obtainable. The decrease in the area irrigated from the Lower Salin Canals was over 6,000 acres. "Minor Government Canals" in the Yamèthin District show an increase. The area irrigated from "Private Canals" gave an increase of 16,000 acres. These are really village irrigation works, and take off from streams running from hills with a fair catchment area. The most extensive areas under this system are found in the Katha, Magwe, and Yamèthin Districts. The irrigation from "Government tanks" was most successful and showed an increase of 42,000 acres. The Meiktila District accounted for over 31,000 acres of this increase. In the Yamèthin District the tanks held ample supplies of water, and the spill from Government works was caught by old private canals and used to raise crops on areas which had long been fallow. "Private tanks" also benefited by the good early and middle rains, and the area irrigated under these showed an increase of over 22,000 acres. "Well irrigation" is of minor importance, being only used for vegetable garden or betel-vine cultivation; there was a slight expansion of 600 acres under this class. The area irrigated from other sources is very considerable, and is just over a quarter of a million acres. It lies mainly in the Prome, Toungoo, Thatôn and Yamèthin Districts. Of the gross irrigated area over 95 per cent. was cultivated with rice, a slight increase on the figure reported last year. The irrigated area twice cropped aggregated 28,427 acres. The greater part of this twice cropped area lay within the Kyauksè and Mandalay District canal tracts.

The Agricultural Department: General.

85. The development of the Agricultural Department was continued during the year. The superior staff remained unchanged, but the appointment of a third Deputy Director was sanctioned, though funds will only be provided at the conclusion of the war. With regard to the subordinate staff the temporary appointment of the Superintendent of the Hmawbi Farm was sanctioned for a further period up to the 26th September 1915, and an increase of three was made in the number of District agriculturists. The main work of the department in connection with agricultural education was, as in former years, the training of recently recruited members of the subordinate staff. The five probationary assistants sanctioned in the previous year were under training throughout the year, five District agriculturists were posted to Districts on the completion of their course, and three commenced their training at Hmawbi. Five cultivators availed themselves of the stipends offered to members of Co-operative Societies desiring to gain experience of the methods in use on experimental farms. A new experimental station was opened during the year at Yawnghwe in place of the old Government garden at Taunggyi, and work was continued at the existing stations at Mandalay, Padu, Hopin, Bugyi, Hmawbi, Tatkôn and Pwinbyu. In addition a seed farm was opened at Yedashe in charge of the District agriculturist at Yedashe. The buildings at Hmawbi were completed, and a sum of Rs. 11,000 was spent on buildings at Tatkôn. Buildings at small cost were also provided at Padu and Hopin, and a manure pit at Mandalay. Ten District agriculturists were at work in the Districts of Shwebo, Mandalay, Kyauksè, Yamèthin, Myingyan, Pakôkku, Thayetmyo, Toungoo, Minbu, and Insein. One agriculturist is being trained for the Pegu District, where a vacancy occurred during the year through death. The work of these officials is reported to be very satisfactory. In Yamèthin orders for agricultural implements to the value of Rs. 1,843 were received through the District agriculturist, and in Insein three tons of bone-meal were ordered as a result of the District agriculturist's demonstrations. In Shwebo the interest displayed in the expansion of wheat cultivation is said to be largely due to the work of the District agriculturist. Implements to the value of Rs. 4,037 were sold from the depôt at the Mandalay station, and implements to the value of Rs. 2,752 were distributed in the Southern Circle. The proposals for the discontinuance of the Bhamo Agricultural Show were not approved, and

efforts were made to make the show more attractive; but these produced no effect, and the abolition of the show was again recommended.

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Agricultural experiment and research.

86. Of the two experimental gardens still remaining under the control of District officers, the garden at Falam had a fairly successful year, the sale of fruit and vegetables realizing Rs. 485, an excess of Rs. 98 over the previous year. Young orange trees procured from the Shan States failed, and steps are being taken to replace them with trees from the Lushai Hills. Californian trees did well, and experiments with American cotton, coffee and groundnuts, are in progress. The garden at Myitkyina made little progress, and proposals were submitted for its abolition. The total expenditure for both gardens was Rs. 1,876 and the receipts amounted to Rs. 514. Experiments through District agency continued to be on a small scale; an experiment in the cultivation of sugarcane was brought to a successful issue in the Chin Hills, and a grant of Rs. 300 was made towards the upkeep of a small indigenous tea plantation at Htawgaw in the Myitkyina District. The energies of the principal experimental stations at Mandalay and Hmawbi were devoted to paddy. At Hmawbi ten pure strains of improved paddy, the result of three years' selection for yield and milling quality, were produced on a field scale. At Mandalay seed selection work continued on the same lines as in former years. In addition to the pure lines mentioned in the previous year's annual report, a variety of "Ngaseingyi" yielding 20 per cent. more than the local strains was evolved. Various planting, manurial, spacing, and other experiments were also carried out. Work on cotton was undertaken both at Tatkôn and Padu. A preliminary examination of Burma cotton resulted in a large number of single plant selections being obtained. Variation in staple length was also studied. Cambodia cotton was grown at both stations but not with any great success. A collection of twelve varieties of sesamum was made at Tatkôn with a view to determining the number of plant types in the crop. Sugarcanes were imported into the Môn Canal area in the Minbu District from Pyinmana and from the sugarcane expert to the Government of India. The latter were destroyed by a flood, but the Pyinmana canes grown under irrigation on a field scale at the Pwinbyu station did well. An examination of locally grown "jowar" proved the crop to be a medley of types, and a large selection of single plants was made at Tatkôn with a view to sowing in the coming season. It is hoped that some may be more resistant to the "Striga Lutea" pest than others. Experimental work on wheat was conducted both at Padu and Hopin. Padu was confined to macaroni wheat (Triticum durum) and 16 pure lines originally obtained at Mandalay were grown, the best of these exceeding in outturn the local variety grown in an adjoining plot by 67 per cent. At Hopin the season was unfavourable and the station new, and better results may be expected next year. The soil of the existing farms is unsuitable for tobacco, and no work was done on this crop again during the year. More attention was given to pulse crops, and the "Peseinngon" (Cajanus Indicus) grown on the Bugyi station attracted the attention of local cultivators. Madagascar beans were again cultivated but the outturns obtained by cultivators were small. Experiments with castor were in progress on several of the stations, and maize is also being attended to. The Lower Burma Planters' Association asked for assistance during the year in dealing with the disease of rubber trees, known as "black thread;" an investigation of the disease was begun, and the Imperial Mycologist visited Burma with regard to it. The matter is still under enquiry. Poultry breeding was continued on the Mandalay farm on a small scale.

In the chemical branch 378 analytic experiments were completed, this figure being exclusive of analyses and preliminary tests on the ripening of paddy, and on prussic acid and humus determinations. Two sheds of pot cultures for the comparison of different soils were put down, but in one case an attack of "gwabo" vitiated results. The field cultures undertaken included manurial tests, cultures for testing the effect of climate and watering on the ripening of paddy, and environment experiments. A large number of tests were carried out to determine the relative fragility of some paddy cultures. A systematic examination of the

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prussic acid content of Burma beans was commenced. In the botanical branch special enquiries into "Striga Lutea" and the water hyacinth (Eichhornia Crassipes) were made. In the entomological branch a collection of insects was made in Mandalay, of which over 240 species were sent to the Imperial Entomologist for identification. Other work done included the rearing of 38 important insect pests and the study of their life history, germination tests of seeds treated with carbon bisulphide and naphthaline, and a study of the chief paddy pests of the province. No cultivators' leaflets were published during the year, but former publications were under revision. A bulletin on the peas and beans of Burma was published.

Veterinary Department Staff and veterinary schools.

87. Excluding superior officers, the staff of the Veterinary Department during the year consisted of 14 Inspectors and 141 Veterinary Assistants as against 13 and 137 respectively in the previous year. The total cost of the department amounted to Rs. 2·53 lakhs as against Rs. 2·58 lakhs in 1913-14: of this sum Rs. 1·87 lakh was met from Provincial and Rs. 65,880 from Imperial Funds. The number of students at the Insein Veterinary School continued to increase and at the end of the year stood at 50 as against 41 at the end of the previous year. The record of the school was again satisfactory, though there were four resignations and one removal in the year. A sum of over Rs. 13,000 was expended on subsidiary buildings, and the construction of a laboratory at an estimated cost of nearly Rs. 40,000 was sanctioned. The number of animals treated at the hospital amounted to 1,374, the average daily attendance being 22·5 as against 21·8 in 1913-14. The number of specimens sent in from the Districts for examination was 2,016 as against 2,603.

Cattle disease.

88. The Province enjoyed a degree of immunity from contagious cattle disease unknown in previous years. The total number of deaths from all contagious diseases, which was 24,676 in 1912-13 and 20,411 in the following year, was in the year of report only 10,115. In Lower Burma the deaths fell from 14,397 to 5,836, and in Upper Burma from 6,014 to 4,279. Deaths from rinderpest, which in 1913-14 fell from 20,505 to 13,048, were in 1914-15 as low as 5,698. The only outbreaks of any magnitude that occurred were in the Toungoo, Ruby Mines and Yamèthin Districts, where 1,390 in the Toungoo, 1,597 in the Ruby Mines, and 1,003 animals in the Yamèthin Districts are reported to have succumbed. The mortality from anthrax was small, the Akyab District reporting the greatest number of 405. Foot-and-mouth disease gave trouble in the Bassein and Myaungmya Districts, and there was a certain amount of it in the Sagaing and the Pakôkku Districts. The losses in these Districts were 694, 350, 202 and 115 respectively. In the Shan States there was less disease than usual, though several outbreaks of rinderpest occurred From the Hsipaw State 1,142 deaths from rinderpest were reported, and 67 from Tawngpeng. In some areas in the Southern Shan States the losses are said to have been severe, but no statistics are available. Cases of surra were reported from various parts.

Despite the absence of epidemics the returns of preventive inoculation show an increase. Inoculation against rinderpest was carried out in eight Districts and 9,649 animals were inoculated as against 5,223 in the previous year. The percentage of inoculated cattle that died rose to 1·9, but results in the different Districts vary somewhat, the proportion of deaths among treated animals being as high as 1 in 35 in the Yamèthin District, and as low as 1 in 169 in Prome. The total number of animals treated during the year by the department for contagious diseases was 32,364 and for non-contagious diseases 39,588, as against 33,113 and 43,233 respectively in the previous year. Deaths from non-contagious diseases reported from Lower Burma amounted to 64,804 and friom Upper Burma to 15,738. There is a consensus of opinion that the segregation rules are appreciated by the people, and the measures laid down carried out, when occasion arises, though in some Districts there is room for improvement. Permanent segregation camps were maintained in the Ruby Mines and Pyapôn Districts with continued good results.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Stock.

89. The year as a whole was a good one for live-stock. The provincial returns show a continued growth in the total number of oxen; bulls and bullocks rose from a revised figure of 2,034,553 to 2,055,278, cows were 1,537,650 as against 1,540,160 and there were 1,188,995 calves. There is a slight decline in the number of male buffaloes, male and female buffaloes being in number 381,584 and 409,477 with 294,505 calves, and it appears that in the Delta Districts oxen are ousting them. Horses have been classified and the returns show 4,387 stallions, 38,290 mares, 37,603 geldings and 15,069 foals against a combined total of 89,248 horses in 1913-14. Sheep and goats increased to 34,253 and 195,541 respectively, this stock being almost exclusively owned by Indians. Pigs, enumerated for the first time, are returned at 336,855, and the figures show that swine-breeding is widespread, with the Thatôn District as the largest breeding centre. From the cattle rearing Districts of Upper Burma there was less export than usual, poor prices ruling owing to the scarcity of money.

Agricultural loans.

90. The advances made during the year to agriculturists under the Agriculturists' Loans Act amounted to Rs. 10·99 lakhs, as against Rs. 9·24 lakhs in the previous year, and outstandings of Rs. 9·56 lakhs at the commencement of the year brought the total amount loaned to Rs. 20·55 lakhs. The amount due for collection within the year including arrears, was Rs. 11·57 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·08 lakhs or 70 per cent. were collected. These collections compare unfavourably with those of the previous year, when Rs. 10·37 lakhs or 87 per cent. were collected out of a total due of Rs. 11·94 lakhs, and reflect the adverse conditions of the year. Only Rs. 156 were remitted during the year as against Rs. 3,073, but suspensions of payment amounted to Rs. 1·74 lakh as against Rs. 89,034 in 1913-14. The amount overdue was Rs. 1·64 lakh as against Rs. 82,578, and the balance outstanding at the close of the year was Rs. 12·48 lakhs as against Rs. 9·56 lakhs at the end of the previous year. Suspensions were granted in six more Districts than in 1913-14 and the sums suspended were on the average much larger. In the previous year Pegu was the only District in Lower Burma in which a sum of over Rs. 10,000 was suspended, but during the year of report suspensions of Rs. 34,000 were granted in the Prome District, of Rs. 19,000 in the Ma-ubin District and of Rs. 14,000 in the Thatôn District, owing to floods, poor outturns and prices. In Upper Burma there were also three Districts with suspensions of over Rs. 10,000, Meiktila with Rs. 29,000, Sagaing with Rs. 15,000 and Magwe with Rs. 11,000. These three Districts had a poor agricultural season and the poor prices realised for cotton deepened the depression. The returns disclose, however, a lack of uniformity in the issues and collections of loans, for while Meiktila had a sum of Rs. 1·18 lakh on loan at the commencement of the year, Myingyan, a similarly situated District, had only Rs. 42,887, and while in Meiktila only Rs. 17,449 were collected during the year, in Yamèthin, a neighbouring District, some Rs. 79,789 were brought to account. In Lower Burma the Kyaukpyu, Ma-ubin and Prome Districts make the greatest use of agricultural loans. In Shwebo advances were made in the shape of seed wheat. A large part of the amount of Rs. 1·64 lakh overdue at the end of the financial year on the 31st March was recovered before the end of the agricultural year on the 30th June.

The amount advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act was Rs. 21,150 as against Rs. 14,040 in the previous year. Outstandings from 1913-14 were Rs. 30,462, making the total advanced Rs. 51,612. The majority of Districts do not take loans under this Act. The Districts chiefly interested in such loans are Thayetmyo, Prome and Amherst in Lower Burma, and Yamèthin and Myingyan in Upper Burma. Of the principal advanced Rs. 13,824 were collected or remitted during the year, Rs. 2,539 were suspended, and Rs. 3,370 were overdue. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 37,788.

The profits accruing to the Local Government from these loan operations after repayment of principal and interest at 3½ per cent. to the Government of India amounted to Rs. 35,696 as against Rs. 45,123.

Protection from floods.

91. Embankments constructed for the protection of cultivation are maintained by the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department. The principal works

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lie along the course of the Irrawaddy river in Lower Burma, but works on a smaller scale have also been constructed along the banks of the Sittang river. For the main works on the Irrawaddy river both capital and revenue accounts are kept, but the works on the Sittang river and the Ma-ubin embankment in the Ma-ubin District have revenue accounts only. The capital outlay on embankments, for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept, rose during the year from Rs. 39·81 lakhs to Rs. 40·26 lakhs. Receipts increased from Rs. 14·32 lakhs to Rs. 14·57 lakhs, while working expenses fell from Rs. 2·40 lakhs to Rs. 2·0 lakhs, profits thus rising from Rs. 11·92 lakhs to Rs. 12·57 lakhs, and representing a return of 31·23 per cent. on the capital outlay as against a return of 29·95 per cent. in the previous year. The area protected increased from 489,570 acres to 499,621 acres. The embankments, for which only revenue accounts are kept, show a decrease in the area protected from 198,927 acres to 197,815; revenue receipts were Rs. 6·67 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 1·22 lakh, leaving a profit of Rs. 5·45 lakhs as against a profit of Rs. 5·84 lakhs in the previous year.

An embankment for a reservoir at Moyingyi was in course of construction during the year, but some delay in the work was caused by the acquisition of the necessary land. The Thabyu retirement in the Ma-ubin District was extended at a cost of Rs. 6,816 and a retirement was constructed on the Irrawaddy embankment in the Henzada District at a cost of Rs. 21,406. The Irrawaddy embankment in the Henzada District was raised at a cost of Rs. 25,208, and portions of the Ma-ubin embankment are being raised. The Myanaung embankment was extended at a cost of Rs. 68,806. A survey was undertaken of the Pyuntaza Plain, a sum of Rs. 6,287 being spent during the year; it is proposed to improve the drainage of this plain by controlling the streams that flow from the Pegu hills. The work of taking discharge observations of the Irrawaddy river, begun in the previous year, was completed during the year at a total cost of Rs. 27,901.

Weather and Crops.

Character of the seasons.

92. Drought and untimely rains in Upper Burma, and floods in Lower Burma, marked the year. Except in parts of the dry zone in Upper Burma the early rains were timely, sufficient and well distributed. The middle rains in the wet zone in Lower Burma were excessive, and this led to flooding and destruction of crops, while sowing was retarded in several Districts. There were hopes that a second sowing, or a late sowing, might save the situation; but a sudden failure of the rains from about the second week in October to the third week in November prevented crops being successfully raised on the flooded areas. An abnormal fall of rain towards the latter end of December in the middle of the harvest did not improve the situation, and some loss was caused by sprouting of the grain. In the dry zone the conditions varied greatly: but on the whole the season was unfavourable. Heavy middle rains caused the sesamum in some areas to run to stalk, and the yield of oil was poor and of indifferent quality. The rains in December adversely affected the groundnut crop and caused a certain amount of the nuts to germinate. The rises in the Chindwin and Irrawaddy caused some destruction of paddy, but the chief riverine and island crops were a success.

Outturns and prices.

93. Most of the leading rice-producing Districts reported decreased yields, and the yield for the Province fell from 88 per cent. of the normal yield in the previous year to 81 per cent. in the year of report. No fewer than seven rice-producing Districts, Akyab, Prome, Myaungmya, Pyapôn, Toungoo, Amherst, and Thatôn, in Lower Burma, reported yields of 25 per cent. below normal. This fall was due to a smaller yield per acre and to the smaller area on which rice matured. The exportable surplus of rice was finally estimated at 2,500,000 tons, the forecast estimate being confirmed, as against an exportable surplus of 2,600,000 tons in the previous year. Owing to the war the year of report was abnormal as regards prices. Credit was stopped and loans called in, the harvesting

and transport of the paddy crop suffering in consequence. The closing of the German and Austrian markets, the temporary shutting down of German-owned mills, and later on the shortage of tonnage with its concomitant abnormal rise in freights seriously affected prices which ruled low for the first part of the season, returning to the level they occupied ten years ago. There was a recovery, however, towards the end of the season and for the latter end of May the Rangoon quotations were above normal. The low prices offered resulted in considerable stocks of paddy being held by the more well-to-do cultivators.

The total weight of cleaned cotton raised was over 8,000 tons. The yield per acre showed a decline in the Thayetmyo and Lower Chindwin Districts, but remained unchanged in the more important cotton Districts of Myingyan and Sagaing, while in the Meiktila District a slight decrease in the yield per acre was counterbalanced by an increase of the area under the crop. The outturn of groundnut was estimated to increase by 10,000 tons, and the outturns of white and red beans to decrease by 5,000 and 1,000 tons respectively. The yields of red millet, white millet and maize were estimated at 47,000 tons less, while the estimated shortage in the outturn of sesamum was 13,000 tons. The effects of the war depressed the prices of groundnut and cotton. The cotton market was thoroughly disorganized during the year, and the dislocation of commerce in France re-acted on the prices of groundnut. On the other hand there was a considerable demand from Europe for beans, and high prices were realised.

Co-operation.

Co-operative rural societies.

94. The proposal to combine under one direction the Agricultural and Co-operative Departments, which was referred to in the previous year's departmental report, is still under the consideration of the Government of India. The third Provincial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference was held in Mandalay just after the close of the year and was largely attended by officials and non-officials: many resolutions were passed. Co-operative Conferences were also held in several Districts during the year and promise to acquire further importance. Efforts were directed during the year to the consolidation and expansion of the Co-operative movement in Upper Burma and the Delta Districts of Lower Burma, and it was decided to defer for the present the establishment of societies in the Arakan Division or in the Tenasserim Division outside the Toungoo District. The co-operative movement in Lower Burma is still in its infancy, and experience confirms the view that satisfactory growth can best be attained by the grouping of societies into suitable Unions. Notwithstanding this restrictive policy the number of Agricultural Credit Societies rose from 1,086 in the previous year to 1,252, and their membership from 27,182 to 30,130. Of these societies 606 are of the Luzzatti and 646 of the Raiffeisen type. Their finances reveal the increasing magnitude of their operations. Their working capital rose from Rs. 32·60 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 41·52 lakhs; the total share capital was Rs. 7·00 lakhs as against Rs. 5·77 lakhs, and the reserve funds amounted to Rs. 4·40 lakhs as against Rs. 2·78 lakhs. Local deposits decreased from Rs. 1·03 lakh to Rs. ·89 lakh, but this was due mainly to the war, which alarmed depositors and made money scarce. Loans from Government amounted to Rs. 5·05 lakhs as against Rs. 2·94 lakhs, and deposits from other societies to Rs. 24·19 lakhs as against Rs. 20·08 lakhs. The profits on the year's working rose from Rs. 1·84 lakh to Rs. 2·13 lakhs and are credited to the reserve funds, the percentage of the reserve funds and the share capital to liabilities on deposits and loans and to total liabilities being 45 and 33 respectively. All these societies have unlimited liability, and the rates allowed on deposits vary from 9 to 15 per cent. No societies take money on current deposit and none have as yet opened a savings' bank. The byelaws are being amended so as to prescribe an annual fixation of the maximum normal credit to be allowed to members. The average loan for members is now Rs. 136. The cancellation of 19 societies was carried out during the year; liquidation of 15 was in progress, and 12 societies previously cancelled were finally wound up. The reasons for

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cancellation were misconduct and mismanagement in 16 cases, apathy in 1 and reconstruction in 2. The position of certain societies in the Yamèthin District, which were reported in the previous year as being in an unsatisfactory state, has been improved; some of the worst are being eliminated, and it is hoped to bring the standard of the remainder up to that prevailing in other Districts. The accounts of all the societies were audited during the year. Expenses of management amounted to Rs. 67,901.

There are three tracts in the province in which colonisation has been undertaken on a co-operative basis. In the Môn Canal tract societies number 86 and are combined into 8 Unions. They still hold Rs. 2·23 lakhs of agricultural advances from Government, but are gradually being brought into line under their Unions and the Sagu-Salin Central Bank. A suspension of the repayment of Rs. 90,000 due in March was granted by Government. In the Mohnyin valley in the Katha and Myitkyina Districts the societies owe Government Rs. 38,125 on account of agricultural advances. The members of the societies in this tract are for the most part heavily indebted to Indian money-lenders and their re-habilitation is necessarily slow. In the Kadônbaw tract which covers somewhat over 23,000 acres and lies between the estuary of the Sittang river and the Thôngwa Township of the Hanthawaddy District, colonisation was started during the year of report. Thirteen societies were formed; the area was surveyed, divided up and allotted to them, and agricultural advances to meet the first year's cost of cultivation were disbursed to 578 members to the amount of Rs. 2¼ lakhs.

Unions and Central Banks.

95. Guaranteeing Unions increased from 91 to 112, comprising 1,117 Agricultural Credit Societies. The increase is due to the splitting up of some of the larger Unions, which were found to be unwieldy and ineffectual, into more manageable concerns. During the year five Unions were registered in Lower Burma, where their necessity for the purposes of propaganda and control is even more pronounced than in Upper Burma. There is one Union at Prome of urban societies. The work of these Unions is well reported on and they are said to have done much to promote punctual repayment.

The number of Central Banks remained unchanged. The Upper Burma Central Bank in Mandalay is the central co-operative bank for the whole of the province. It supports by cash credits the two central banks at Pakôkku and Sagu-Salin, and generally finances societies. Its issued share capital as on the 30th June 1915 stood at Rs. 2·04 lakhs as against Rs. 1·77 lakh at the end of the previous year, and consisted of 1,250 shares fully paid up held by individuals, 1,572 shares half paid up held by societies, and two shares fully paid up held by societies. Fixed deposits rose from Rs. 17·86 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 24·68 lakhs, and savings' bank deposits from Rs. 1·56 lakh to Rs. 1·81 lakh. Loans to societies amounted to Rs. 21·31 lakhs, and the cash credits advanced to the Pakôkku and Sagu-Salin Central Banks to Rs. 81,178. Investments in Government paper stood at Rs. 3·22 lakhs as against Rs. 2·61 lakhs in the previous year, and reserve funds at Rs. 47,324. The net profits on the year's working were Rs. 43,235 or some Rs. 4,000 less than in the previous year, but they would have exceeded these except for the necessity of writing Government paper down to 92, which was the quotation on the 30th June 1915. The dividend for the year was reduced from 9 to 6 per cent., and Rs. 20,955 was allocated to reserve funds, thus raising them to Rs. 68,279. The bank demonstrated the soundness of its position during the crisis following the outbreak of the war. It retained sufficient fluid resources to meet all its liabilities to depositors, and at the same time was able to supply all necessary funds to the societies in the Province. Fixed deposits fell off somewhat in the months of September and October, and it became necessary to raise the rates on them from 6 to 7 per cent., but they were reduced to normal before the end of the year. The bank lends at 9 per cent. to societies, which in turn lend to their members at 15 per cent. The margin out of which the co-operative movement has to pay expenses and dividends and accumulate reserves, is thus about 8 per cent. The amount of loans repaid to the bank during the year was Rs. 5·40 lakhs against an amount of Rs. 8 lakhs due, or about 20 per cent. of the total amount loaned out as against 24·5 per cent., which is the average for the past four years.

The Pakôkku and Sagu-Salin Central Banks are both dependent to a large extent on the Upper Burma Central Bank. Both are reported to have worked well, but the amount of the deposits they have attracted is small. The Pegu Bank is still in an embryonic stage and has failed so far to raise the sum of Rs. 50,000, which was a condition of its commencing business in the District.

Other societies.

96. The number of non-Agricultural Societies decreased from 49 to 43, but the membership rose from 3,414 to 3,574. Three new societies were formed and 9 have been eliminated from the returns; of the latter 3 were cancelled in the previous year but were only finally wound up in the year of report; of the 6 cancelled during the year, 5 were cancelled for bad work and apathy, while one was converted into an agricultural society. The urban societies in Lower Burma are reported to have worked satisfactorily, but they have not yet evolved a system of financing the poorer classes in their towns. A growing demand for salary-earners' societies is reported and some recently formed societies of this type are doing well; the Kyauksè Clerks' Friendly Society, however, is reported to have deteriorated. The Katha District Police Society was registered during the year, but has not yet begun operations. Some of the older societies are gaining the general confidence of their localities, and it is reported that the Ma-ubin Town Society is now being offered deposits beyond its requirements at 6 per cent. The Amarapura Silk Weavers' Society suffered from the almost complete stagnation in the silk market, and the silk weaving school also found difficulty in disposing of the fabrics woven by the pupils.

Co-operative sale societies show a large decrease of 49 to 14. This is due to the omission from the statistics of 52 groundnut sale societies, which were annexes to 52 credit societies in the Pakôkku District, as they did no business during the year owing to their inability to obtain from Rangoon firms rates which they considered suitable. Three new sale societies, one in Myitkyina and two in Yamèthin, were registered during the year. Satisfactory business was done as in previous years with the Supply and Transport Department. A society for the production and sale of road metal to the Pyinmana Municipality was formed at Shwemyo in the Yamèthin District, and worked successfully. The attempt to link up paddy sale societies with the Rangoon mills was definitely abandoned until such time as millers offer satisfactory arrangements for weighment in bulk, or send their own buying agents to the societies' depôts. The sanction of the Secretary of State to the promise of Government aid to the proposed Central Cattle Reinsurance Society was received during the year. The guarantee takes the shape of loans free of interest up to a total of Rs. 25,000 per annum, if required during the next five years. The effects of this guarantee will probably be seen in the following year. In the year of report though the number of cattle insurance societies increased from 59 to 63, the membership decreased by 27 to 1,059. The returns show that the risk insured was Rs. 52,911 as against Rs. 74,977 in the previous year; the premia collected in the year amounted to Rs. 2,109, deaths numbered 26, and the amount of indemnity paid was Rs. 379. The expenses of management were only Rs. 3-4-0, and the total funds at the disposal of these societies were at the end of the year Rs. 7,338, or 14 per cent. of the total risk insured. The rate of the premium was raised from $3\frac{1}{8}$ to 5 per cent., but doubts are expressed whether this rate is not unduly high.

Horticulture.

Horticultural Societies.

97. There are two Agri-Horticultural Societies in the Province: the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society in Moulmein. The membership of the former society decreased by 24 to 268. The revenue account shows a loss of Rs. 909 on the year's working, as against a profit of Rs. 1,037 in the previous year. Receipts rose from Rs. 29,727 to Rs. 35,827, but expenditure also rose from Rs. 28,690 to Rs. 36,736. The closing balance was however Rs. 7,426 or Rs. 754 higher than at the end of the

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previous year. A reserve fund was started and a sum of Rs. 5,000 allocated to it. The sales of plants and flowers were well maintained in spite of the war, though the demand for orchids fell, and an order for 400 roadside trees grown in the society's gardens was received and executed. At the instance of the Chief Conservator of Forests a collection of forest products under the supervision of the Forest Research Officer is being placed in the Society's Council Hall pending the building of a museum for the Province. The annual flower show was held as in former years, the exhibits being above the average in all classes, but rain spoilt the attendance.

The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society, as in the previous year, published no report, and held no annual show.

Forests.

Forest reserves, unclassed forests, settlement, demarcation, survey and working-plans.

98. The area of the reserved forests was increased during the year by 907 square miles to a total for the Province of 28,239 square miles. New reserves to the extent of 931 square miles were notified, 14 square miles were added by recomputation of areas and 38 square miles of existing reserves were disforested. The estimated area of unclassed forests remained practically unchanged at 114,127 square miles, of which 9,079 square miles or 8 per cent. are reported to be without forest growth. The area finally settled during the year was 891·2 square miles, the amount spent on settlement being Rs. 3,996. On the other hand a sum of Rs. 1,19,824 spent in 1913-14 on the settlement of the Paunglaung Elephant Grazing Reserve in the Yamèthin District was recovered from the lessees of government forests, in whose interests the reserve was formed. The amount spent on areas undergoing settlement during the year was Rs. 22,922. The length of boundaries at the close of the year was 22,356 miles, an increase of 386 miles over the figures for the previous year. A length of 723 miles of new boundaries was demarcated, the difference between this and the net increase of 386 miles being chiefly due to the omission of internal boundaries and recalculation. A length of 398 miles of boundary still required demarcation at the close of the year. A special survey of 131 miles of boundaries in the Mandalay Division and an ordinary survey of 247 square miles of forest areas and of 317 miles of boundaries were carried out by the Survey of India during the year, while 712 miles of boundaries and 54 square miles of reserved forests were surveyed departmentally by local officers. A survey of 8,943 square miles of reserved forests is still required. Working-plans covering an area of 957 square miles in the Pegu and Lower Chindwin Divisions were sanctioned by the Local Government. Working-plans for 2,160 square miles are in course of preparation, and are still required for 8,959 square miles of reserved forests.

Protection of forests.

99. The number of offences under the Forest Act reported during the year was 5,026, or 214 less than the number reported in the previous year. The decrease falls under two heads, "Injury by fire" and "Unauthorised fellings", and is mainly attributable in the first place to a reduction of the area protected from fire, and in the second to a smaller exploitation by licensees owing to the effects of the war. The area under fire protection shows a further net reduction of 748,708 acres, due to the permanent abandonment of protection over areas considered fire proof, and to its temporary abandonment over areas on which bamboos had flowered gregariously. Of the 2,162,275 acres over which protection was attempted only 58,674 acres or 2·7 per cent. were burnt, the corresponding percentage of failures in the previous year being 3·3. The cost of protection dropped by over half a lakh of rupees to approximately Rs. 1·44 lakh. There are no restrictions on grazing in unclassed forests and the area of reserved forests open to grazing remained practically unchanged at 23 per cent. The number of cattle impounded decreased by over 20 per cent. from the average of the previous three years to 3,465 head, but the reason is not known. No widespread damage from excessive grazing was reported.

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Improvement of forests.

100. The expenditure on new buildings was Rs. 89,869, of which approximately 50 per cent. was spent on rest-houses and 38 per cent. on the construction of subordinates' quarters. Repairs to existing buildings cost Rs. 68,615, Rs. 33,453 was spent on new roads, (this sum being exclusive of Rs. 12,455 contributed towards the cost of roads constructed by extra departmental agency in the South Toungoo and Kado and Agency Divisions,) and Rs. 44,310 on new bridle paths. The cost of repairs to existing roads and paths increased by Rs. 17,532 to Rs. 65,242.

The net increase in the area of regular teak plantations was 25 acres, 19 acres of new plantations being made, and 20 acres being added by the recomputation of areas, while 14 acres of the Myenigôn Plantation in the Insein Division were surrendered, as the land was required for the erection of quarters for Government Officers in Rangoon. The net increase in the area of "taungya" plantations (mainly teak) was 333 acres. Improvement fellings were carried out over an area of 134,047 acres at a cost of Rs. 78,928.

Exploitation of timber.

101. The total number of teak trees girdled was 205,371, an increase of 12 per cent. over the figures for the previous year. The amount of teak extracted by Government agency amounted to 51,880 tons—a slight decrease from last year's figures—of which 66 per cent. was obtained from the forests in the Pegu Circle. On the other hand the amount of teak thus extracted which was disposed of during the year fell by nearly 10,000 tons to approximately 45,000 tons in consequence of the restricted state of the market. The quantity of teak extracted by purchasers was 243,107 tons, as compared with an outturn of 243,525 tons from this source in the previous year. The outturn by purchasers of reserved and unreserved timber and fuel dropped heavily, the amounts extracted during the year being respectively 70,139, 172,480 and 409,950 tons or 45 per cent., 47 per cent. and 91 per cent. of those extracted in 1913-14. The quantity of timber extracted under free grants also shows a considerable decrease from 26,781 to 17,807 tons. The value of minor forest produce extracted remained practically unchanged at nearly 8½ lakhs of rupees.

Finance.

102. The financial results are noticed in Chapter V in the section entitled "Revenue and Finance other than Imperial."

Mines and Quarries.

The Indian Mines Act.

103. Mines under the Indian Mines Act are worked in the Tavoy, Mergui and Ruby Mines Districts. The number of mines in the Tavoy District shows for the year a further increase of 15 to 69. But of these only 15 were worked continuously throughout the year, 15 were closed down before the end of the year, and of the rest some 13 were worked for less than 200 days. The mines are mostly wolfram mines, and the set-back is mainly attributable to the effects of the war, operations being curtailed or suspended on financial support from Europe failing, and on the price of wolfram falling heavily owing to the prohibition of export to Germany. In the Mergui District only one mine was worked, as in the previous year. In the Ruby Mines District the Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited, closed down its mines at Padansho and Bernardmyo. Advisory Boards in the proper sense of the term have not yet been constituted in the Province, but a Chamber of Mines which was formed in the previous year in the Tavoy District was again consulted on technical questions during the year. The reports from the three Districts indicate that the health of the employees was fair, but doubts are expressed whether the low death-rate at the mines themselves in the Tavoy District is a real index to the actual conditions prevailing, and nothing is said as to whether the improvement in housing the coolies anticipated in last year's report has been carried out. The system and the rate of payment of coolies at 12 annas a day in the Ruby Mines District remained unchanged. In the Tavoy District the contractual system still exists, but payment by daily rates is coming in, the rates varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 3, according to the skill of the worker.

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The majority of the labourers are Chinese. There was no change in the conditions or extent of female and child employment during the year. In the Ruby Mines District there were 3 accidents, of which 2 were serious and one fatal. In the Tavoy District accidents rose from 5 deaths and 8 serious injuries to 12 deaths and 13 serious injuries in 10 fatal and 7 serious accidents; but two mines between them were responsible for 8 of the deaths and 6 of the serious injuries. There were again no prosecutions under the Act during the year.

New concessions.

104. The total number of applications for prospecting licenses disposed of during the year was 344, and for mining leases 12 as against 539 and 27 respectively in 1913. At the close of the year 95 applications for prospecting licenses and 37 for mining leases were pending. These figures suggest that the reaction following the mining boom of a few years back has not yet spent itself: in 1912 the number of applications disposed of was as high as 956. Of the applications for prospecting licenses disposed of 179 were granted, 125 were refused, and 40 were withdrawn. As in 1913 the majority of these applications for prospecting licenses came from the Tavoy and Mergui Districts in the Tenasserim Division, and were mostly for wolfram and tin. But though these two Districts account for 51 of the pending applications, and for 213 of the applications disposed of, no mining lease was granted in them during the year. Only three mining leases in all as against 16 in 1913 were granted in the year. They were all for mineral oils in the Minbu and Pakôkku Districts of the Magwe Division in Upper Burma.

Petroleum.

105. The output of petroleum during the year amounted to 254½ million gallons valued at Rs. 141·46 lakhs, as against an output of 273 million gallons valued at Rs. 153 lakhs in the previous year. The oil-fields of the Magwe and Myingyan Districts contributed between them 248 million gallons of this total. The output of the Magwe District fell by 25 million gallons to 175 million gallons, the Yenangyaung field yielding less. In Myingyan the output rose from 63½ million gallons to 73½ million gallons, and the yield of the Singu field is said to be steadily increasing. Of the other oil producing Districts Pakôkku with 4½ million gallons and Minbu with 1½ million gallons alone show more or less substantial figures, though they declare declines of one, and 1½ million gallons respectively; in Pakôkku the oil-field is reported to be approaching exhaustion, and in Minbu the future is uncertain. In the Thayetmyo District, where oil winning is still in the experimental stage, 22,836 gallons were produced as against 30,240 in the previous year. The output of oil in the Kyaukpyu and Akyab Districts is small. In the Upper Chindwin District, where an oil-field was discovered in 1910-11, drilling operations were continued.

Gold.

106. The production of gold in the Province is small. It amounted during the year to 3,704 ounces, of which 3,636 ounces were won in the Myitkyina District. The Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, operating in the bed of the Irrawaddy river in this District, produced 2,631 ounces as against 5,330 ounces in the previous year. Though gold-washing is carried on in a few other Districts, the amount of gold won is insignificant, the largest amount being 45 ounces, declared by the Upper Chindwin District.

Rubies.

107. The Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited, continued their operations in the Ruby Mines District during the year in and around the Mogôk valley; but the war destroyed the Paris market, and though the Indian market has since recovered from its first panic, the year has been one of depression and gloom. The total value of the rubies, sapphires and spinels won during the year ending the 30th June 1915 is estimated at Rs. 5·70 lakhs, or nearly a lakh of rupees less than in the previous year, though the production in carats was considerably higher, and the royalties collected from native miners fell from Rs. 2·85 lakhs to Rs. 79,000. The new mine opened in the previous year at Bernardmyo was abandoned owing to unproductiveness, but good results are reported from the new mine at Kathè. Work was stopped at the Padansho mine owing to the

necessity of reducing expenses, and the shifts at some other of the mines were reduced. The Company was also compelled to reduce all salaries and monthly wages by 25 per cent. From mines not falling under the Indian Mines Act a production of 830 carats of rubies and spinels is reported.

Other minerals.

108. Wolfram is worked both under the Indian Mines Act and the Land Revenue Act. It is at present found in the Tavoy, Mergui and Thatôn Districts, and in the Southern Shan States. The total output of wolfram during the year from mines falling under the Indian Mines Act amounted to 1,579 tons valued at Rs. 16·57 lakhs as against 1,475 tons valued at Rs. 16·67 lakhs in the previous year, and from mines falling outside the scope of the Act to 611 tons valued at Rs. 8·42 lakhs as against 229 tons valued at Rs. 2·90 lakhs. The total production of wolfram was therefore 2,190 tons valued at Rs. 24·99 lakhs as against 1,704 tons valued at Rs. 19·57 lakhs in 1913-14. The outbreak of the war seriously affected the price of wolfram, as export to Germany which was then the sole market for the ore ceased. A revival, however, towards the end of the year was brought about by a demand for the ore from the United Kingdom, where plant for treating it had been set up. The Tavoy District is the chief centre of production, and accounted for the whole of the output from the mines under the Mines Act; but separate statistics for this metal are not available for the Mergui District, where the output of wolfram and tin together is returned at 8 tons. Of the output from the mines outside the Act the Tavoy District produced 401 tons, Mergui 193 tons and Thatôn, where the mineral has been more recently discovered, 17 tons. In the previous year Tavoy produced 28 tons and Mergui 201 tons. In addition the Southern Shan States returned an output during the year of 138 tons of tinstone and wolfram ore.

Of other metals the total production of tin amounted to 136 tons as against 203 in the previous year. Of this 38 tons came from Tavoy and 98 from Mergui. The latter District also produced 86 tons of tin ore. The extraction of lead slag and silver lead ore in the Northern Shan States rose from 16,360 tons valued at Rs. 2·25 lakhs and 3,939 tons valued at Rs. 2·78 lakhs respectively to 24,901 tons valued at Rs. 6·01 lakhs and 8,769 tons valued at Rs. 2·36 lakhs respectively. Zinc ore also rose from 3,871 tons to 8,553 tons. In the Myitkyina District the output of jade rose from 3,281 cwts. to 3,764 cwts., but prices dropped slightly, and the value of this larger amount was Rs. 2·05 lakhs as against Rs. 1·92 lakh, the value of the output in the previous year.

Quarry stones and clay.

109. Granite to the value of only Rs. 1·27 lakh was extracted as against Rs. 5·20 lakhs in the previous year. But the quarry worked by the Port Commissioners of Rangoon in Kalagauk Island in the Amherst District, which accounted for granite to the value of Rs. 3·79 lakhs in 1913, was closed down during the year. The quantity extracted in the Thatôn District increased from 46,880 tons to 57,857 tons, or more than half of the total extraction for the province, and was utilised by the Public Works Department and the Burma Railways Company. Large quantities of laterite, limestone and gravel were also extracted throughout the Province for the use of public departments and bodies.

Revenue from mines and quarries.

110. The receipts from fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber declined by nearly 10 per cent. from Rs. 33·51 lakhs to Rs. 30·18 lakhs. A fall of over 3 lakhs of rupees to Rs. 18·88 lakhs in the receipts from petroleum in the Magwe District is partly due to the exclusion of Rs. 1·70 lakh from the year's accounts owing to late receipt, and partly to the lessened production of all oil companies with the exception of the Burma Oil Company and the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company. Receipts in Pakôkku declined by nearly 18½ per cent. to Rs 71,787, and in Minbu by 22 per cent. to Rs. 24,575. On the other hand receipts increased in Myingyan by 17½ per cent. to Rs. 9·58 lakhs owing to the activity of the Burma Oil and the British Burma Petroleum Companies. In Myitkyina the revenue derived from licenses to collect royalty on jadestone fell by 20½ per cent. to Rs. 27,190 owing to the bad market in China, and in the Ruby Mines District there was a further fall of Rs. 1,44,060 in royalties on

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precious stones, which now amount to only Rs. 37,700. "Other minerals" produced only Rs. 1·44 lakh of revenue as against Rs. 2·25 lakhs in the previous year, a decline of over 36 per cent. The Tenasserim Division is responsible for Rs. 77,186 of this decrease; in Tavoy the progressive reduction in the rate of royalty on wolfram led to a decrease of Rs. 6,115, the total production of the mineral remaining practically the same as in the previous year; acreage fees in this District also fell strikingly from Rs. 61,143 to Rs. 26,638, and royalty from tin fell from Rs. 2,447 to Rs. 272. Depression in the wolfram mining industry also accounts for decreases of Rs. 5,314 and Rs. 1,380 in Mergui and Thatôn Elsewhere the surrender of one area held under a prospecting license accounts for a decline in Bhamo, while increased activity in the Lower Chindwin produced a corresponding increase in acreage fees. Notable decreases in the receipts from licenses for clay to manufacture bricks and for the manufacture of lime due to depression in the building trade are recorded in the Tharrawaddy, Pegu, Ma-ubin and Myaungmya Districts.

Manufactures.

Principal industries.

111. The bulk of the indigenous population is agricultural, and manufacturing industries draw their supplies of labour mainly from the immigrant Indian population. The numbers of persons supported by the various industries of the Province are given in the Census Report of 1911. No new industries were established during the year, and the principal existing industries continued to be rice-milling, saw-milling, petroleum-refining, and the transport industries. Of these the rice-milling industry accounted for more than half of the factories registered in the province, and for nearly half of the total number of operatives employed; while the four industries between them claimed over two-thirds of the total number of operatives. Indigenous industries, as carried on, hardly fall within the purview of the Factories Act. A revival has been brought about in the silk-weaving industry at Mandalay by the introduction of co-operative measures and scientific instruction in technical methods, but other indigenous industries such as the manufacture of cigars, pots, mats, umbrellas, *ngapi*, shoes and carts present no unusual features. On the other hand the trade returns would lead to the belief that the indigenous manufacture of groundnut oil is expanding.

Factories.

112. The number of registered factories at the end of the year was 450 as against 424 in 1913. Few new factories were built, and the increase of 26 factories consists chiefly of old factories which had not been registered hitherto. Thirteen factories were shut during the whole year, while some, belonging to German firms, only worked for part of the year. Rice-mills and saw-mills increased in number from 240 and 104 to 258 and 109 respectively, but cotton-mills decreased by two. The average daily number of operatives rose from 63,066 to 64,601, of whom rice-mills with an increase of 2,046 claimed 30,498. On the other hand saw-mills show a decrease of 904 to 8,767, while cotton-mills and petroleum refineries show but little change. The number of adult males employed rose from 58,306 to 59,702, and of adult females from 3,681 to 4,049, but the number of children fell from 1,079 to 850. Adult males in the factories are chiefly Indians while the adult females are largely Burmans; except in saw-mills, where the saw-dust boys are sometimes Indians, nearly all the children are Burmans. The greater portion of the adult males were employed in the Rangoon Town and Hanthawaddy Districts, 25,504 working in the former and 9,500 in the latter District. Women are not employed to any great extent in Lower Burma, but large numbers are employed in Upper Burma in the ginning factories in Myingyan, where the figure returned for the year was 1,279. As it was found that children were being employed to carry paddy in excessive weights, the Local Government directed that the exemption under section 3 (*2*) from the provisions of Chapter IV of the Factories Act should not apply from the 1st of January 1915 to children employed in carrying paddy or rice in rice-mills. During the year 406 certificates of fitness were granted and 14 refused.

Accurate statistics are not available for an exact determination of the scale of wages paid for skilled labour, but the rates, to judge from the data to hand, are usually higher than the rates in India. As regards unskilled labour, wages in the rice-mills are higher in Moulmein than in Rangoon, and again in Bassein than in Moulmein. Hoppering coolies in Rangoon are paid from Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 a month, in Moulmein from Rs. 15 to Rs. 25, and in Bassein Rs. 22. Coolies who ship the bags of rice are paid by piece work, and may get Rs. 3 a day; but the work is intermittent. Coolies in saw-mills are paid from Rs. 13 to Rs. 18 in Rangoon, Rs. 13 in Moulmein and Rs. 15 in Mandalay. In cotton-ginning women are paid from 4 to 5 annas a day. The health of the operatives is said to have been on the whole good. Some cases of plague in mills came to light accidentally, and factories in the Hanthawaddy District have now been directed to report all cases of plague to the Health Officer. Owing to the better general sanitation at the mills, however, operatives probably suffer less from epidemics than the poorer inhabitants in towns. But in the Delta the sanitation of the coolie lines and mill compounds is reported to be bad. Fencing received much attention during the year; and draft rules for the fencing of circular saws were published by the Local Government; but they aroused opposition and the matter is in abeyance. The number of accidents reported fell from 375 to 364, and there were 9 fatal accidents as against 13 in the previous year. Of the total number of accidents 152 occurred in saw-mills, and of these again 51 were connected with the use of circular saws. Serious accidents in the total number of accidents fell from 96 to 75. Prosecutions numbered 12 as against 2 in 1913. But much restraint was practised, and the number of prosecutions is no index to the number of infractions of the Act. The Inspector of Factories inspected 373 out of 437 factories actually working during the year.

Trade.

113. The aggregate value of the total sea-borne trade of the Province was returned at Rs. 58,93·69 lakhs. This figure represents a decrease of Rs. 19,15·50 lakhs or 24·5 per cent. on the trade of 1913-14. The combined value of imports and exports of private merchandise (exclusive of all treasure and Government stores) declined by 18·5 per cent. to Rs. 56,63·68 lakhs. Excluding the inter-portal trade the combined value of the total trade in private merchandise decreased by Rs. 11,87·78 lakhs to Rs. 52,43·99 lakhs. The total value of the foreign trade in private merchandise fell from Rs. 39,90·91 lakhs to Rs. 26,81·04 lakhs. Imports were down by Rs. 5,45·41 lakhs, and exports by Rs. 7,64·46 lakhs. In the Indian trade, of which the total value was Rs. 25,62·95 lakhs as against Rs. 24,40·86 lakhs in the previous year, exports rose by Rs. 3,07·72 lakhs to Rs. 18,08·13 lakhs, while imports fell by Rs. 1,85·63 lakhs to Rs. 7,54·82 lakhs. On the other hand the value of the provincial trade between ports in Burma fell by Rs. 1,00·28 lakhs or 19 per cent. from Rs. 5,19·98 lakhs to Rs. 4,19·69 lakhs, in both exports and imports. The decrease in the total value of exports and imports was all-pervading, almost all the most important commodities being affected. Imports of cotton, silk and woollen manufacture, apparel, metals, machinery, hardware, sugar, fish, provisions and oilman's stores, liquors, tobacco, motor-cars, and most of the articles under the head "Miscellaneous" all fell heavily, as did exports of rice, hides, timber, groundnuts, and raw cotton. The few articles that showed increases were insufficient to redress the balance. This partial collapse was caused either directly or indirectly by the war which dislocated trade. In the annual report for 1913-14 it was pointed out that the prospects of the import trade for 1914-15 were distinctly unpromising. Statistics for the first four months of 1914-15 showed a fall of Rs. 30·01 lakhs in foreign imports, Rs. ·84 lakh in re-exports, and Rs. 2,47·67 lakhs in exports. There were some hopes of a recovery, but these were shattered by the outbreak of the war in August which brought about the closing of the German and Austro-Hungarian markets, restrictions and prohibitions affecting import to and export from neutral ports, a temporary cessation of all sea-borne trade owing to the raid of the German cruiser the

Maritime trade: total value and revenue.

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"Emden," and above all a lack of tonnage. The export trade of rice suffered from these effects of the war, but not to the extent that might have been anticipated. The value of the exports of *rice* represented in the year of report 63 per cent. of the total value of all merchandise exported from the Province as against 66 per cent. in 1913-14. Although the total exports, which amounted to 2,348,400 tons, fell short of the figures of the previous year by 395,836 tons, they were higher by 20,410 tons and 173,812 tons than those of 1912-13 and 1911-12 respectively. Difficulties in the disposal of the crop, anticipated on the outbreak of the war owing to the closing down of the German and Austro-Hungarian markets and the partial restriction of shipments to neutral countries, were not realized, and it was seen finally that the difficulty which the trade had to face was a scarcity of tonnage and not a decline in demand. Had this difficulty not existed, it is likely that the record figures of 1913-14 would have been exceeded. Certain markets have in the past drawn on the Continental markets for their requirements: many of these now came to Burma direct. This was particularly noticeable in the case of Cuba which took 27,328 tons as against 5,238 tons in 1913-14; Denmark after a lapse of three years again came to Burma, and new customers were found in Portugal and Greece. The Dutch East Indies also took large quantities and there was a substantial increase of about 37 per cent. in the quantities exported to India. Burma's share of the total foreign trade in rice of the whole of India was 72 per cent. in quantity and 62 per cent. in value.

The value of gold imported from foreign and Indian ports fell from Rs. 2,00·78 lakhs to Rs. 91·02 lakhs, the major portion of which was imported by the Government from India. A sum of Rs. 76·50 lakhs in sovereigns was imported in April and July 1914, but the outbreak of the war put a stop to all movements of sovereigns, and in the remaining months of the year only small quantities of other gold coin and bullion were imported. The excess of gold imports over exports was Rs. 81·97 lakhs, and of silver imports over exports Rs. 19·07 lakhs. In the external trade of the Province, the excess in the value of exports over imports during the year was nearly 15 crores, as against 10½ crores in the previous year, the increase being due to the great decline in imports. The trade of Burma with India was responsible for nearly 9½ crores of this excess. Only in 1912-13 has the balance of trade been so large; and in that year the excess was set off to the extent of 4 crores by imports of treasure. In the year of report the net imports of treasure amounting to 1 crore only, left a net trade balance of nearly 14 crores, as against one of 9 crores in 1913-14.

The net customs duty realised, inclusive of the duty on imported salt, was Rs. 1,36·32 lakhs as against Rs. 2,00·67 lakhs in the previous year. The gross revenue was Rs. 1,39·00 lakhs as against Rs. 2,03·22 lakhs and the decline of Rs. 64·22 lakhs or 31·6 per cent. as compared with the previous year's figures is attributable mainly to the trade conditions consequent on the outbreak of war. The gross collections on account of *import duties* (excluding that on *salt*) fell by 31·1 per cent. from Rs. 91·30 lakhs to Rs. 62·88 lakhs, but those on account of *salt duty* rose by 7·7 per cent. The fall in the amount of duty realized was particularly noticeable in the cases of *cotton goods* and *liquors*. The amount of duty realized on the former dropped by Rs. 7·74 lakhs to Rs. 8·32 lakhs: that on the latter fell by Rs. 6·04 lakhs to Rs. 20·25 lakhs. Under the general head, *other articles*, the duty dropped by Rs. 9·42 lakhs; and the collections on *silk goods* with Rs. 2·29 lakhs, *sugar* with Rs. 1·60 lakh and *tobacco* with Rs. 1·30 lakh showed substantial decreases. The fall in the amount of *export duty* realized from Rs. 94·19 lakhs to Rs. 57·01 lakhs is ascribable to the scarcity of tonnage to foreign markets. The demand for *rice* was ample and could easily have been met had freight been available. The total *gross* revenue collected at Rangoon was Rs. 1,23·80 lakhs as against Rs. 1,70·90 lakhs, showing a fall of Rs. 47·10 lakhs or 27·6 per cent.; in addition a sum of Rs. 9·54 lakhs was collected at Rangoon on account of export duty on *rice* shipped from the outports of Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. The *net* revenue realized at Rangoon declined by Rs. 47·51 lakhs to Rs. 1,21·41 lakhs or 28·1 per cent. The total *gross* revenue collected at the outports fell by Rs. 17·12 lakhs or 53 per cent. to Rs. 15·19 lakhs, of which Rs. 13·43 lakhs represented the export duty on *rice* as against Rs. 29·63 lakhs

in the previous year. Of the total export duty, Rs. 3·89 lakhs were collected at the subordinate ports and the remainder at Rangoon. The *gross* duty collections at the various subordinate ports were in Bassein Rs. 7·62 lakhs, in Akyab Rs. 3·44 lakhs, in Moulmein Rs. 3·18 lakhs, in Tavoy Rs. ·70 lakh, in Mergui Rs. ·20 lakh and in Victoria Point Rs. ·05 lakh. CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

114. The total value of all articles, excluding treasure, imported from foreign countries during the year into Rangoon was Rs. 10,34·19 lakhs as against Rs. 15,67·76 lakhs in the previous year and from India into Rangoon Rs. 6,69·38 lakhs as against Rs. 8,22·15 lakhs. Exports from Rangoon to foreign countries, again excluding treasure, were valued at Rs. 12,87·51 lakhs as against Rs. 17,23·88 lakhs, and to India at Rs. 14,46·11 lakhs as against Rs. 11,95·23 lakhs. Of the foreign trade Rangoon took 86·80 per cent. as against 82·72 in 1913-14 and 81·95 in 1912-13. There was no material difference in her share of the Indian and provincial trades which stood at 83·20 and 44·32 per cent. respectively. Rangoon trade: total figures.

115. The decrease in the value of imports from foreign countries in India into Rangoon was, as noticed above, all pervading. Imports under *textiles—cotton* fell by Rs. 2,46·02 lakhs and represented 20·9 per cent. of the aggregate value of private merchandise imported into Burma, as compared with 25·2 per cent. in the previous year. The year opened with heavy stocks resulting from the over-trading done during the previous two years, but business was proceeding along normal lines when the outbreak of war caused stagnation and congestion. There was some improvement in the later months. Imports under *textiles—silk* declined from Rs. 86·32 lakhs to Rs. 36·93 lakhs. This is the lowest figure in the last quinquennium, and is due to large importations in 1912-13 and 1913-14 and to a considerable restriction in the purchasing power of the people. Under *textiles—wool* the decline was from Rs. 57·11 lakhs to Rs. 30·18 lakhs. The steady improvement seen in this trade during the last five years received a set-back: but considering the enormous demand in the United Kingdom for coarse wool for army clothing and the fact that German trade was only of some five months' duration, the figures of the year of report were not unsatisfactory. The value of the imports approximates to the average value of imports during the three years 1910-11 to 1912-13 which is Rs. 34·55 lakhs. This is a branch of trade in which the United Kingdom generally predominates and its predominance was accentuated during the present year at Germany's expense. The total value of the imports under *metals* and *ores* fell by 18·6 per cent. from Rs. 1,47·24 lakhs to Rs. 1,19·86 lakhs. It was higher, however, by 10·6 per cent. than in 1912-13, and by 17·7 per cent. than in 1911-12. Germany and Austria are usually among the principal suppliers of *hardware* and importations of the articles under this head suffered considerably. The total value was returned at Rs. 30·20 lakhs as against Rs. 53·05 lakhs in 1913-14, a decline of 43·1 per cent. Importations of *provisions and oilman's stores* were down by 33 per cent. from Rs. 89·52 lakhs to Rs. 59·66 lakhs. These commodities are rather articles of luxury than necessity and are soon affected by reduced purchasing power. There was a decline in the foreign imports of *fish* from Rs. 24·68 lakhs to Rs. 22·32 lakhs. *Salt* is one of the few articles that show an increase: imports at Rs. 14·38 lakhs as against Rs. 14·19 lakhs in 1913-14 were higher than in any previous year. German salt retained its leading position until the outbreak of the war, when the supply ceased. The deficiency was made good by Egypt and Salif. The value of imports under *sugar* fell from Rs. 56·63 lakhs to Rs. 44·82 lakhs, foreign imports of refined sugar under this head amounting to 373,605 cwts. valued at Rs. 42·44 lakhs. As compared with the previous year, the decrease in quantity was 34·7 per cent. but owing to higher prices the decrease in value was only 18·4 per cent. The local market is entirely dependent on Java, and it was deprived of its usual supplies by the British Government's Committee of Food Supplies, which secured the unsold stocks in Java and Mauritius and diverted them to the United Kingdom. Imports from India were also considerably smaller. The importations under *liquors* were the lowest in the last quinquennium. They were valued at Rs. 30·84 lakhs as Rangoon trade: foreign imports.

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against Rs. 49·58 lakhs in the previous year. The combined foreign and coasting imports under *tobacco* declined by Rs. 19·30 lakhs to Rs. 46·39 lakhs. *Mineral oils* like *salt* break the monotonous recital of decreases and show a slight increase of Rs. 1·00 lakh. But *motor cars* and under the head *miscellaneous*, guns and ammunition, building material, cutlery, cycles, earthenware, fruits and vegetables, gunny bags, matches and umbrellas, all show decreases, of which the most considerable is a decrease of Rs. 30·25 lakhs in the value of the imports of gunny bags from Bengal. On the other hand a few articles under the same head *miscellaneous* such as packing paper, soap, and black tea showed slight increases.

Rangoon trade: foreign exports.

116. *Rice, husked and unhusked, mineral oils, wood and timber, cotton, hides and skins* form the chief exports from Rangoon to foreign countries and India. The total value of *rice* exported during the year was Rs. 15,82·22 lakhs as against Rs. 17,49·76 lakhs in the preceding year. The value of the amount taken by foreign countries fell from Rs. 11,72·62 lakhs to Rs. 776·27 lakhs, but there was a substantial increase of about 37 per cent. in the quantities exported to India, though the conditions prevailing there were not as a whole worse than those of the previous year. It is probable that Indian buyers took advantage of the lower prices ruling for Rangoon rice. Bengal, Bombay and Madras took 63, 16 and 11 per cent. respectively more than in 1913-14. In the case of the first named the local crop appears to have been poor. The total exports of *rice bran* from the Province showed a further decline of 25,233 tons valued at Rs. 8·59 lakhs to 183,697 tons valued at Rs. 56·11 lakhs. Shipments from Rangoon fell by 27,691 tons or 14·1 per cent. to 169,276 tons. The heavy fall in the exports of *teak* during 1913-14 was followed by a further decrease from 121,169 cubic tons to 107,130 cubic tons, though prices again show a considerable advance from Rs. 1,37·97 lakhs to Rs. 1,51·84 lakhs. Curtailment of markets, and other circumstances incidental to the war, offer an adequate explanation of the figures. The United Kingdom took slightly more than last year and over 60 per cent. of the total quantity exported, the normal demand being supplemented by a demand for teak for military purposes. Germany, usually the second largest foreign consumer, was closed as a market after August. Shipments to Natal and Cape Colony, Victoria, the United States of America and France showed an increase, whereas those to all the other countries which usually take supplies declined. The coasting exports also showed a decline as regards quantity, and a rise as regards value. The curtailment of expenditure by Government on railways and public works, no doubt contributed to this result, but there was a great fall in exports for private consumption. The combined exports from Rangoon and Moulmein of *other kinds of timber* fell from 44,080 cubic tons to 40,267 cubic tons, and the exports from Rangoon decreased. India as usual took the bulk of the shipments. The figures for the year show a steady progress in the exports of *mineral oils*, the combined total of the foreign and coastal trade being the highest yet recorded, and topping the previous year's figures by 1·9 per cent. in quantity and 3 per cent. in value. The war affected the output of petroleum, this showing a decline of 18·2 million gallons or nearly 7 per cent., and shipments of *kerosine* oil to foreign countries were negligible, the Indian demand falling by Rs. 5¼ lakhs in value; but *benzene*, *petrol*, *paraffin wax*, and *candles* all show large amounts exported. There was a considerable fall from Rs. 79·12 lakhs to Rs. 52·36 lakhs in the foreign exports of *hides* and *skins*, due to the closing of certain markets, particularly in the Levant, owing to the war, and the restrictions placed on shipments to other markets. A large demand came from the United Kingdom, and her takings amounted to the value of Rs. 19·86 lakhs as against Rs. 5·82 lakhs in the previous year. Italy and the United States of America on the other hand took Rs. 9·95 lakhs and Rs. 4·73 lakhs less respectively than in 1913-14. The combined exports, foreign and Indian, of *raw cotton* dropped by 5 per cent. in volume and 25 per cent. in value, from 247,870 cwts. valued at Rs. 89·83 lakhs to 235,003 cwts. valued at Rs. 67·80 lakhs. Exports to India declined but the United Kingdom took a larger quantity. The total shipments of *groundnuts* from Rangoon dwindled during the year from 538,254 cwts. with a value of Rs. 37·02

lakhs to 37,993 cwts. with a value of Rs. 2·67 lakhs. This is about equivalent to half of the amount of the exports in 1904-05, when this produce first came into notice. The reason for the decline is to be found in the closing of the Continental markets, and the heavy freights to Hongkong, which is the leading market. Exports to Hongkong fell from 202,236 cwts. to 24,966 cwts., and France, in normal times the second largest consumer, took none. *Beans* advanced from 19,565 tons to 31,421 tons, an increase of 61 per cent. The exports of ***rubber*** were the highest yet recorded, amounting to 987,392 lbs. valued at Rs. 20·15 lakhs as against 765,072 lbs. valued at Rs. 16·55 lakhs in 1913-14. The exports of *cutch* increased, but there was a decline in *lac*. *Lead* recovered from the set-back in 1913-14, and the exports amounted to 6,499 tons as against 3,422 tons. The total exports of ***wolfram*** were slightly in excess of the previous year's, but the value fell by Rs. ·84 lakh. In previous years about 50 per cent. of the exports went to Germany, and in the year of report these were diverted to the United Kingdom. Exports of *jadestone* touched their highest figure with 4,194 cwts. or an increase of 46·4 per cent. on the exports of the previous year. The estimated value was Rs. 8·23 lakhs.

Rangoon trade: British share.

117. Relatively to other countries, the United Kingdom and the British Empire profited by the abnormal conditions of the year. The share of the United Kingdom in the total trade of Rangoon rose from 36·51 per cent. in 1913-14 to 44·10, and the share of the British Empire from 55·15 per cent. to 67·34. In imports the United Kingdom advanced from 56·01 per cent. to 58·46, and the British Empire from 63·61 per cent. to 68·12. In exports the former advanced from 18·87 per cent. to 32·62, the latter from 47·50 per cent. to 66·71. Hongkong, Zanzibar, and Canada alone of the dependencies and dominions within the British Empire, show decreased shares, Hongkong falling from 2·57 per cent. to 2·26, Zanzibar from ·57 per cent. to ·47, and Canada from ·44 per cent. to ·30. These decreases are slight and are dwarfed by substantial increases from other parts of the Empire. On the other hand the share of the trade enjoyed by foreign countries has been substantially reduced. Among them Germany's share was reduced from 9·64 per cent. to 4·50, Austria-Hungary from 1·95 per cent. to 1·44, Holland from 5·72 per cent. to 2·91, Belgium from 3·43 per cent. to 1·91, France from 1·24 per cent. to ·81 and Japan from 9 per cent. to 3·85. Notable increases are shown by Java from 2·55 to 4·23 per cent. and the United States of America from 2·43 per cent. to 3·55. Germany retained first place, though with a diminished margin; Java took second place with 4·23 per cent., and the United States of America third with 3·55 per cent.

Rangoon: coasting trade.

118. The total value of the coasting trade done by Rangoon fell by Rs. 50·04 lakhs to Rs. 1,85·99 lakhs. Imports fell from Rs. 61·35 lakhs to Rs. 55·37 lakhs, and exports from Rs. 1,74·69 lakhs to Rs. 1,30·62 lakhs. Most of the trade was with the ports in the Tenasserim Division.

Subordinate ports.

119. Rangoon took 82·02 per cent. of the total foreign and coasting trade, as compared with 80·17 per cent. in 1913-14. Of the balance of 17·98, Moulmein took 5·86 per cent., Akyab 5·46, Bassein 4·00, Tavoy 1·32, Mergui 1·12, Kyaukpyu ·10, Victoria Point ·06 and Sandoway ·06. Moulmein's share of the total trade was less than in the previous year, though the value of her share in the Indian trade was greater. Akyab, Tavoy and Mergui took a larger share of the total trade, whereas Bassein's share was less than in the two preceding years. In the rice trade, Rangoon exported 75 per cent. of the total amount exported as against 67 per cent. in the previous year, Bassein 14 per cent. as against 17 per cent., Akyab 4 as against 10 per cent. and Moulmein 6 as against 9 per cent. The decrease in the case of Moulmein is said to have been due to a scarcity of tonnage. The value of the trade in teak in Moulmein fell from Rs. 47·51 lakhs to Rs. 37·58 lakhs, but the exports of other kinds of timber increased. The total gross revenue collected at the outports fell by 53 per cent. to Rs. 15·19 lakhs, of which Bassein contributed Rs. 7·62 lakhs. Administrative approval was obtained to a proposal to extend the accommodation for bonded goods at the Custom House in Akyab,

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A new joint Customs and Port Office at Kyetsabyin near Tavoy is in hand and will be completed in the near future. The extension of the landing jetty at Mergui was completed during the year and further improvements are contemplated.

Trans-frontier trade: total trade.

120. The total value of the trans-frontier trade during the year of report was Rs. 7,67·61 lakhs as against Rs. 7,55·20 lakhs in the previous year or an increase of 2 per cent. Imports fell by 2 per cent. from Rs. 3,98·16 lakhs to Rs. 3,90·56 lakhs, but exports rose by 6 per cent. from Rs. 3,57·04 lakhs to Rs. 3,77·05 lakhs. The distribution of this trade under merchandise, treasure and timber gives percentages of 72, 24 and 4, as against 71, 23 and 6 in the previous year. The aggregate trade for the year thus shows an increase of Rs. 12·41 lakhs, despite the economic crisis and dislocation caused by the upheaval in Europe. Great variations have resulted in certain commodities, but on the whole merchants and traders have adapted themselves readily to the changed conditions.

Western China.

121. Bhamo is the chief centre of trans-frontier trade for Western China. The total value of the trade during the year shows a decrease in exports of 13·6 per cent. to Rs. 57·71 lakhs but an increase of 19·9 per cent. in imports to Rs. 73·11 lakhs. The decrease in exports was mainly under the heads of cotton twist and yarns and piece-goods with decreases of Rs. 1·51 lakhs and Rs. 7·67 lakhs respectively. The decreases under these heads were to some extent counterbalanced by an increase in the exports of raw cotton. The increase in imports was mainly under the head of silver (Rs. 21·70 lakhs). On the other hand there was a decrease in imports of raw silk (Rs. 2·69 lakhs). Lack of tonnage and increase of freights caused a rise in the price of foreign goods, while financial troubles in the Chinese bazaar and the result of over-trading in previous years assisted in the decline. On the other hand the low price of Burma cotton, due to the disorganization of the world's cotton market, led to a large increase in the export of this commodity for the Chinese market. Credit and loans were greatly restricted and the balance of trade and old debts liquidated owing to the war had to be paid in cash with a resulting increase in the import of silver. The decline in the imports of raw silk was largely due to over-stocking in previous years.

The Northern Shan States and Unadministered Kachin Country.

122. The total value of the trade with the Northern Shan States increased, but the increase was almost entirely due to the activity of the Burma Mines Company. The value of imports and exports both show an increase from Rs. 1,35·63 lakhs to Rs. 1,45·87 lakhs and Rs. 1,24·75 lakhs to Rs. 1,51·40 lakhs respectively. Lead shows an increase of Rs. 12·75 lakhs on the totals of 1913-14, and it is interesting to note that for the first time some 11,295 maunds of copper valued at Rs. 3·88 lakhs were shipped to Liverpool. The enhanced export figures in coal and coke (Rs. 2·27 lakhs) and iron (Rs. 23·58 lakhs) are chiefly due to the requirements of the company. One of the principal products of the Northern Shan States is oranges, and some Rs. 1·75 lakh more were imported this year than last. The tea trade was not so flourishing; prices were poor, and producers held up their stocks. Pickled tea is a luxury, chiefly marketed in Mandalay, and doubtless the comparatively poor agricultural year resulted in economies in the consumption of this article throughout Burma. European twist and yarn showed a revival, and exports increased by Rs. 3·13 lakhs. European piece-goods showed a decline of Rs. 3·35 lakhs. Cheap German and Austrian goods are still in stock in certain markets, but the Superintendent, Northern Shan States, reports that Japanese goods have displaced German articles in the important bazaar of Namkham.

Neither the war nor the Kachin frontier trouble appear to have affected the trade with the unadministered Kachin country: imports show a rise of 67 per cent. to Rs. 6·32 lakhs and exports a rise of 35 per cent. to Rs. 8·02 lakhs. The opening up of the new Putao District has naturally resulted in trade following the flag. Part of the increase must, however, be attributed to better registration, as a new office was opened at Mogaung in November 1913.

The Southern Shan States.

123. The total trade with the Southern Shan States for the year is valued at Rs. 1,82·87 lakhs, of which imports accounted for Rs. 77·80 lakhs and exports for Rs. 1,05·07 lakhs; as against Rs. 1,00·63 lakhs and Rs. 99·53 lakhs respectively in the previous year. Imports show a decrease of Rs. 22·83 lakhs, mainly under the heads of cattle, teak, elephants and silver. A decrease of Rs. 8·23 lakhs under the head of cattle was mainly due to the fact that the market for cattle in Burma was disorganized by the poor crops and low prices which affected the purchasing power of the agriculturist. Exports of European cotton piece-goods showed a decrease of Rs. 4·24 lakhs, which was however counterbalanced by a revival of the trade in manufactured piece-goods, both silk and woollen, which increased by Rs. 2·49 lakhs and Rs. 3·32 lakhs respectively. The opening of the railway as far as Aungban has stimulated trade in potatoes, oranges and *thanatpet*, but prices ruled very low, and though the quantity imported was greater than last year, the value was less. The influence of the railhead at Aungban has not yet made itself felt on all the trade routes, but this is only a matter of time. In the Myelat area it is of great importance already.

Siam and Karenni.

124. The total value of the trade with Northern Siam declined from Rs. 77·28 lakhs to Rs. 70·96 lakhs; both exports at Rs. 31·32 lakhs and imports at Rs. 39·64 lakhs showing decreases. A decrease of Rs. 5·76 lakhs was caused by the poor market for cattle in Burma, and owing to scarcity of money the import of silk piece-goods also decreased. A slight increase of activity among European firms led to an increase in the imports of elephants. There was an advance in the value of Indian twists and yarns exported.

The total value of the trade with Southern Siam rose from Rs. 23·12 lakhs to Rs. 32·93 lakhs, imports increasing to Rs. 20·41 lakhs and exports to Rs. 12·52 lakhs. Elephants and cattle, which are imported from this area, both showed an increase. Siam is at present the main source of supply of elephants for timber-extraction in this Province. There was a decrease in the importation of silk piece-goods.

Karenni appears to have felt the stagnation of trade very considerably. Imports fell by 31 per cent. to Rs. 27·41 lakhs, and exports by 35 per cent. to Rs. 11·01 lakhs. The decrease took place mainly in the value of teak imported into Burma, which fell by Rs. 8·93 lakhs. The export of silver from Burma shows a consequent decrease of Rs. 3·77 lakhs.

Public Works.

Administrative and general.

125. No important administrative changes took place in the Public Works Department during the year. The Mandalay Public Works Division of the Mandalay Circle was reconstituted into the Maymyo and Mandalay Divisions, and a Division named the Putao Division was formed temporarily from the 16th September 1914. Excluding the expenditure on Irrigation the total expenditure of the department amounted to Rs. 1,56·80 lakhs against a total grant of Rs. 1,69·96 lakhs. This figure shows a great advance on the sum of Rs. 1,33·26 lakhs expended in the previous year. The total grant included special assignments of funds from grants made by the Imperial Government for educational, medical and sanitary purposes and the improvement of communications. The total assignments from educational grants amounted to Rs. 4·33 lakhs, and of this Rs. 3·60 lakhs was utilized. Of the special grant of Rs. 50 lakhs for improvements to communications Rs. 17·50 lakhs was expended. The type plan for High Schools drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose by the educational authorities was revised by the Consulting Architect to the Local Government, with a view to its improvement in the matter of light and ventilation.

(*i*) *Roads and Buildings.*

Communications.

126. The total length of metalled roads outside Municipal boundaries in the Province was at the close of the year 2,008 miles and of unmetalled roads 9,713.

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Of this 8 miles of metalled road and 995 miles of unmetalled road were maintained by local authorities, and the remainder by the Public Works Department. On a revised figure of 10,162 miles of unmetalled road for the previous year, the decrease in unmetalled road for the year is 449 miles, due to the abandonment of 807 miles of old road, partly counterbalanced by the opening of 358 miles of new road. The length of metalled road shows but little change. From the special grant of Rs. 50 lakhs made by the Government of India for expenditure on the improvement of communications, a sum of Rs. 17·50 lakhs was expended during the year, and was utilized to replace old wooden bridges by permanent structures, as in the previous year. The total expenditure on original works and repairs amounted to Rs. 63·18 lakhs as against Rs. 49·79 lakhs. Of this sum Rs. 26·31 lakhs were spent on original works and Rs. 36·87 lakhs in repairs, the expenditure in either case showing a considerable advance on the expenditure in the previous year. Among new roads on which work either of construction or demarcation was in progress during the year, the Myitkyina-Putao road estimated to cost Rs. 9·41 lakhs absorbed Rs. 2·98 lakhs, and the Vowsong-Seniku road in the Myitkyina District estimated to cost Rs. 2·17 lakhs, Rs. 43,068. Other important roads were under construction in the Minbu, Thatôn, Hanthawaddy, Yamèthin and Pegu Districts, and in the Northern Shan States. Some major iron bridges were put up during the year. A sum of Rs. 42,919 was spent on the Pauktaing bridge estimated to cost Rs. 1·03 lakh, on the Tavoy-Sinbyubin road in the Tavoy District, of Rs. 19,197 on a steel bridge over the Ngalaik *chaung* at Pyinmana in the Yamèthin District, estimated to cost Rs. 90,773, and of Rs. 36,973 on a 400-foot span iron bridge over the Namtu river at Ta Taing Aung in the Northern Shan States, estimated to cost Rs. 70,038. Extensive repairs and improvements, including bridging, were carried out principally on the Mandalay-Lashio road, the Hsipaw-Mong Yai road in the Northern Shan States, and the Pagaye-Myitta road in the Tavoy District, but improvements on a number of other roads were also taken in hand.

Buildings—Imperial and Provincial.

127. The expenditure on Civil Imperial works during the year rose from Rs. 3·64 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 7·45 lakhs. Good progress was made with the work on the Custom House and the Telegraph Office now under construction in Rangoon. The expenditure on the former amounted to Rs. 1·99 lakh, bringing the expenditure to date to Rs. 3·88 lakhs against an estimate of Rs. 5·35 lakhs; on the latter, expenditure amounted to Rs. 2·38 lakhs against an estimated cost of Rs. 6·98 lakhs. The unconsecrated Military Church at Maymyo was practically completed at a cost of Rs. 92,453. The expenditure on Civil Provincial buildings was Rs. 33·34 lakhs as against Rs. 28·85 lakhs in the previous year. Of this Rs. 24·39 lakhs was expended on original works and Rs. 8·95 lakhs in repairs. The Administrative Block and the Police Surgeon's quarters at the General Hospital in Rangoon were completed for Rs. 50,630 and Rs. 27,319 respectively. The new Physical Laboratory for the Rangoon College was also completed at a cost of Rs. 67,915. An extension of the Jail at Insein estimated to cost Rs. 5·56 lakhs was commenced during the year, and work was started on the new Court-house, estimated to cost Rs. 1·06 lakh, and the new Civil Station at Mawlaik, whither the headquarters of the Upper Chindwin District now at Kindat are to be transferred. Work was also in progress during the year on numerous schools, court-houses, jails, hospitals, and police buildings throughout the Province. The expenditure on original police works amounted to Rs. 6·47 lakhs, and on medical works to Rs. 5·56 lakhs. The expenditure on jails was also considerable at Rs. 3·53 lakhs.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements and Sanitary Works.

128. A sum of Rs. 3·10 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·82 lakh was spent in repairs, was expended on public improvements as against Rs. 6·97 lakhs in the previous year. Work was in progress on the roads in the Civil Station and the town of Kalaw, and on bridges in Bhamo Town. A sum of Rs. 20,005 was expended towards the protection of the foreshore of the Dalla dockyard in Rangoon, and beacons were erected in the Palaw river and the Mergui Archipelago at a cost of about Rs. 10,000. Certain improvements were effected at the Alguada Reef Lighthouse at a cost of Rs. 33,732. Works at a cost of Rs. 13·46 lakhs were also

carried out for local authorities. Water-works at several towns were in hand, on the two most important of which, at Pegu and Kalaw, estimated to cost Rs. 3·93 lakhs and Rs. 1·93 lakh respectively, sums of Rs. 75,018 and Rs. 80,394 were spent. The construction of bazaars at Pyu and Kywebwe was proceeded with, and the bazaar at Paungdè was completed. On the improvement of the drainage in Akyab Town, estimated to cost Rs. 1·31 lakh, Rs. 39,307 were spent, while the Toungoo drainage scheme and the Maymyo surface drainage scheme were also in progress. The dredging work in connection with the reclamation of certain portions of the town of Kyaiklat was completed, the expenditure to date on the work being Rs. 1·49 lakh against an estimated cost of Rs. 1·97 lakh. In Rangoon the expenditure incurred on reclamation during the year was in round figures Rs. 3·00 lakhs, of which Rs. 69,284 was for work done for private persons. A fuller account of marine and sanitary works will be found in Chapters III and VI.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

129. The railways of the Province are worked by the Burma Railways Company, Limited. The total length of open line was brought up to 1,599·03 miles during the year by the addition of 47·25 miles of new road on the Southern Shan States Railway. This railway now runs from Thazi to Aungban, a distance of 70·25 miles, and its further extension to Yawnghwe is under consideration. No other line was built or extended during the year. The question of railway communication between India and Burma was considered, and to help a final decision with regard to the selection of route, a survey of the route along the coast was ordered and was in progress during the year, a sum of Rs. 2·07 lakhs being expended on it. The four following projected railways in the Tenasserim Division were further considered: (*a*) from Moulmein to Three Pagodas, (*b*) from Ye to Three Pagodas, (*c*) from Ye to Tavoy and (*d*) from Tavoy to Amya. The projected line from Myingyan to Natogyi was abandoned. The construction of a line from Kyangin to Petye in the Irrawaddy Division, which it has now been decided is to be undertaken by the Burma Railways Company, was postponed for want of funds. In the same Division permission was refused a private person to build a light railway from Kyônpyaw on the Daga *chaung* to Ngathaing-gyaung on the Ngawun river. In the Yamèthin District a lease of 20·46 acres of land was granted to the Upper Burma Wood Company for the construction of a light railway.

Railways: construction and surveys.

130. Owing to very heavy rain the line was breached in June on the Sagaing-Alôn branch at several points, on a length of 23 miles, and the service of trains was interrupted for two days. Other breaches also caused by floods occurred at different times at other places, but were of a minor description. Only one accident is recorded during the year as having caused loss of human life: two third class carriages were derailed over points faultily set in Henzada station, and one of them tilted over. Two passengers were seriously injured, one of them dying shortly after admission into the hospital. Other derailments and a few collisions occurred, but they were unimportant, though damage was occasionally done to the permanent way and the rolling-stock.

Interruptions and accidents.

131. The number of passengers carried during the year was 27,045,123 as against 28,667,101 in 1913-14. The gross earnings fell from Rs. 2,46·95 lakhs to Rs. 2,33·86 lakhs, while the gross working expenses rose from Rs. 1,32·34 lakhs to Rs. 1,34·09 lakhs, thus leaving a net profit for the year of Rs. 99·77 lakhs as against a profit of Rs. 1,14·61 lakhs in the previous year.

Traffic and finance.

On the main line the capital outlay during the year amounted to Rs. 23·80 lakhs, thus raising the total expenditure since the commencement of operations to Rs. 17,72·23 lakhs. The mileage remained the same as in the previous year, *viz.* 1,341·85, but the train mileage decreased from 5,270,798 to 5,218,680. Net earnings decreased by Rs. 9·90 lakhs, gross earnings being Rs. 2,16·57 lakhs and gross working expenses Rs. 1,21·96 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings

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was 56·32 as against 53·50 in the previous year, and the percentage of net receipts on capital outlay 5·32 as against 6·05. On the Pegu-Moulmein line the capital outlay during the year was Rs. 88,730, on the Henzada-Kyangin line Rs. 1,821 and on the Southern Shan States Railway, which was under construction, Rs. 19·70 lakhs. The totals of the capital outlay on these lines now stand at Rs. 1,55·30 lakhs, Rs. 65·55 lakhs and Rs. 1,52·66 lakhs, respectively. The train mileage on the Pegu-Moulmein line was 411,855 as against 551,264 in the previous year. Gross earnings fell from Rs. 17·83 lakhs to Rs. 13·38 lakhs and working expenses from Rs. 9·12 lakhs to Rs. 8·94 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings was 66·83 as against 51·14 and the percentage of net receipts on capital outlay 2·86 as against 5·64. The Henzada-Kyangin line also shows decreases in train mileage from 110,056 to 88,826, in gross earnings from Rs. 4·01 lakhs to Rs. 3·05 lakhs, and in working expenses from Rs. 2·56 lakhs to Rs. 2·37 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings rose from 63·73 to 77·88, and the percentage of net receipts on capital outlay fell from 2·21 to 1·43. On the Southern Shan States Railway the mean mileage worked during the year was 35·63 miles. The train mileage rose from 15,774 to 35,618, gross earnings from Rs. 33,020 to Rs. 87,016 and working expenses from Rs. 39,066 to Rs. 81,017. The percentage of expenses to earnings was 93·10 as against 118·31, and the percentage of net receipts on capital outlay rose to *plus* 0·04 as against *minus* 0·05.

Tramways.

132. The Rangoon Electric Tramways carried 10,888,229 passengers during the year or 705,884 less than in the previous year. The running mileage was computed at 1,460,288 miles as against 1,508,609, and the total receipts fell from Rs. 9·52 lakhs to Rs. 8·67 lakhs. The Burma Electric Tramways and Lighting Company, Limited, at Mandalay carried 2,579,051 passengers with a total mileage run of 488,317 as compared with 3,051,277 passengers and a mileage run of 508,737 in the previous year. The receipts fell from Rs. 2·41 lakhs to Rs. 2·05 lakhs. Progress was made during the year with the construction of the Buthidaung-Maungdaw Tramway. The Company has applied for an Imperial guarantee of 3½ per cent. instead of the guarantee of 4 per cent. from the Akyab District Cess Fund, and the matter is under consideration. Work was at a standstill on the Mandalay-Madaya Light Railway: a further extension of time for the completion of the line was granted to the Company.

(*iii*) *Canals.*

Navigation canals.

133. The Pegu-Sittang Canal in the Pegu District and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal in the Thatôn District are the only canals in the Province maintained out of canal dues and used solely for navigation. The total receipts from these canals during the year amounted to Rs. 1·58 lakh and the working expenses to Rs. 1·95 lakh, a loss of Rs. 36,000 being thus incurred on the year's working. Of this the Pegu-Sittang Canal was responsible for Rs. 7,399, receipts falling from Rs. 1·77 lakh to Rs. 1·54 lakh while working expenses rose from Rs. 1·53 lakh to Rs. 1·62 lakh. In the previous year there was a profit of Rs. 24,776. The floating weed (Eichhornia crassipes) known locally as the "Bedabin" again impeded traffic and its removal caused considerable expense. The Agricultural Department is still engaged on the study of this weed, which threatens to paralyse the water communications of Lower Burma. A suction dredger was again at work on the canal, but though some improvement was effected, the hardness of the soil interfered with its success. The weirs at Kyaikpadaing and Paganmyaungbin were reconstructed and repaired and the tow-path was metalled at a cost of Rs. 81,307. The maintenance charges of the canal amounted to Rs. 98,693 as against Rs. 89,770 in the previous year. Receipts from the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal fell from Rs. 6,323 to Rs. 4,073 while working expenses rose from Rs. 12,436 to Rs. 32,753, thus showing a loss of Rs. 28,680. In the previous year the loss was Rs. 6,113. Heavy floods caused considerable damage to the

canal during the year, and at one point the sea has now encroached to within 80 feet of the tow-path. It has been decided to delay the sea breaching the canal as long as possible, without incurring any heavy expenditure. The charges for maintenance rose from Rs. 9,228 to Rs. 25,590.

Other canals are the Twante Canal in Lower Burma and the Shwetachaung Canal in the Mandalay District. The Twante Canal is the chief waterway for launches and cargo boats between the China Bakir branch of the Irrawaddy river and the Rangoon river, and is used solely for navigation. The total expenditure during the year on the improvement scheme of this canal now in progress was Rs. 9·53 lakhs, bringing the total outlay to date to Rs. 59·84 lakhs; a sum of Rs. 5·47 lakhs was spent on excavation, and Rs. 2·77 lakhs on marginal embankments. About 7 miles of the canal were widened and deepened, of which 1½ miles were in the new cut near Seikgyi. The Shwetachaung Canal is used partly for irrigation and partly for navigation, serving the local traffic between Mandalay and Madaya. The navigation fees yielded by it are small and fell from Rs. 5,560 to Rs. 3,650.

Irrigation.

Major irrigation works.

134. There are four works classed as major irrigation works: the Mandalay Canal, the Shwebo Canal, the Môn Canals, and the Ye-u Canal. The results of the year's working compare unfavourably with the previous year's. The total area irrigated fell from 288,093 to 274,604 acres; revenue receipts declined from Rs. 14·83 lakhs to Rs. 13·33 lakhs, while working expenses rose from Rs. 4·95 lakhs to Rs. 9·94 lakhs. The net revenue thus fell from Rs. 9·88 lakhs to Rs. 3·39 lakhs, and this represents a profit of Rs. 1·31 per cent. on a capital outlay of Rs. 2,58·96 lakhs as against a profit of Rs. 4·09 per cent. on a capital outlay of Rs. 2,41·58 lakhs in 1913-14. Of the total area irrigated the Mandalay Canal irrigated 59,720 acres as against 62,967 in the previous year. The main canal was not under complete control and supplies were not available for the high level pipes, from which lands brought under irrigation in 1913-14 had been fed. The decrease, however, was only 5 per cent. on the figures of the previous year, which it must be remembered were the highest as yet recorded. The gross revenue derived from the canal amounted to Rs. 3·66 lakhs as against Rs. 3·73 lakhs in the previous year and working expenses rose from Rs. 68,857 to Rs. 4·70 lakhs. These figures represent a loss on the year's working of Rs. 1·04 lakh as against a profit of Rs. 3·04 lakhs in 1913-14. But the working expenses for that year were exceptionally low, and the figures of the year of report include a sum of Rs. 2·79 lakhs spent on the reconstruction of the headworks damaged in the previous year. Total remission of revenue was granted on 492 acres as against 2,269 acres in the previous year. The area irrigated from the Shwebo Canal fell from 170,850 to 161,739 acres and the decrease is ascribed to the destruction of crops by floods and caterpillars; large areas are also said to have been fallowed for other reasons than want of water. The gross revenue fell from Rs. 8·12 lakhs to Rs. 7·58 lakhs, while working expenses rose slightly from Rs. 3·00 lakhs to Rs. 3·05 lakhs, the net revenue derived being Rs. 4·53 lakhs as against Rs. 5·12 lakhs in the previous year. This amount represents a profit of Rs. 7·70 per cent. on the capital outlay of Rs. 58·81 lakhs. An area of 53,145 acres was irrigated from the Môn Canals as against an area of 54,276 in 1913-14, an increase of 1,104 acres in the area irrigated by the North Môn Canal being nullified by a decrease in the area irrigated by the South Môn Canal, owing to damage and delays caused by floods. The revenue receipts fell from Rs. 2·98 lakhs to Rs. 2·09 lakhs, while working expenses rose from Rs. 1·26 lakh to Rs. 2·19 lakhs, the accounts thus showing a loss of Rs. 10,232 on the year's working, as against a profit of Rs. 1·72 lakh in the previous year. The Ye-u Canal is still under construction; a heavy flood on the Mu river during the year interfered with and did damage to the works. The capital outlay on this work at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 27·43 lakhs, the expenditure during the year amounting to Rs. 6·07 lakhs.

CHAP. IV.—PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. Minor irrigation works.

135. The season was very variable, floods alternating with droughts: and minor irrigation works that depend for their supplies of water on local drainage were affected by it. No capital accounts are kept for these minor works. The total area irrigated from them rose from 289,392 acres to 298,507, and the revenue demand advanced from Rs. 11·01 lakhs to Rs. 11·31 lakhs. Receipts, including arrears from 1913-14, amounted to Rs. 11·42 lakhs as against Rs. 11·80 lakhs, also including arrears, in the previous year. Working expenses fell slightly from Rs. 6·68 lakhs to Rs. 6·58 lakhs, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 4·84 lakhs as against a net revenue of Rs. 5·12 lakhs in the previous year. A few of these minor irrigation works may be noticed. The Shwetachaung Canal in the Mandalay District irrigated 14,792 acres or some 1,000 acres less than in 1913-14, but the canal's supplies of water were interfered with by the construction in progress on the Mandalay Canal, and improved results may be expected when the headworks of the latter canal are completed. Other works in this District show a combined increase of 822 acres due to a good rainfall in the Taunggan and Tonbo catchments. The Mu Canal in the Shwebo District with an irrigated area of 9,427 acres also irrigated 1,000 acres less than in the previous year, but a deficient rainfall rendered remission on 1,647 acres necessary. The areas irrigated in the Kyauksè District from the canals taking off from the Zawgyi and Panlaung rivers decreased from 91,311 and 58,441 acres to 84,412 and 51,766 acres respectively, floods causing damage. In the Myingyan District the area irrigated from the Kanna Tank, 1,270 acres, was up to the average though some 500 acres less than in the previous year. In the Meiktila and the Yamèthin Districts there was a general increase in the area irrigated; in the former District the Meiktila lake irrigated 32,474 acres as against 23,055 in the previous year, the Nyaungyan-Minhla Tank 22,721 acres as against 10,313, and other works 23,529 acres as against 16,879; in the latter District the Kyauksè Tank irrigated 3,857 acres as against 574 and other works 21,429 acres as against 11,037. In the Minbu District floods caused damage and brought about decreases; the area irrigated from the Man Canal declined from 16,229 acres to 15,086, from the Salin Canals from 27,715 acres to 10,455 and from other works from 1,212 acres to 1,129. On the Salin Canals the Myaungmadaw Canal, which is the largest of the system, was washed out by floods, and irrigation from it had to be abandoned for the year. Of the total net revenue from these minor irrigation works Kyauksè accounts for Rs. 4·27 lakhs, as against Rs. 4·75 lakhs in the previous year, and deficits of Rs. 15,846, Rs. 2,445, Rs. 1,086 and Rs. 242 are shown by the Shwebo, Meiktila, Myingyan and Magwe Districts On the other hand the Yamèthin District has converted a deficit of Rs. 1·03 lakh into a surplus of Rs. 2,167. The maintenance charges for these works during the year amounted to Rs. 2·39 lakhs as against Rs. 1·55 lakh, repairs of damage caused by floods being responsible for the increase.

The total area protected by embankments during the year was 697,436 acres as against 688,497 in the previous year. Gross receipts amounted to Rs. 21·25 lakhs and working expenses to Rs. 3·22 lakhs, leaving net receipts amounting to Rs. 18·03 lakhs as against Rs. 17·76 lakhs.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

REFERENCES:—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1915.
Administration Report of the Irrigation Department, Burma, for the year 1914-15.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1914-15.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1914-15, Part I, Foreign Trade.
Report on the Administration of the Excise Department in Burma during the year ended the 31st March 1915.
Report on the Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma during the year 1914.
Note on the Administration of the Stamp Revenue in Burma for the year 1914-15.
Note on the working of the Income-tax Act, II of 1886, in Burma for the year 1914-15.
Report on the Forest Administration of Burma for the year 1914-15.
Report on the working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1914-15.
Report on the Reclamation of Rangoon Town Lands for the year 1914-15.
Resolution reviewing the Reports on the working of Municipalities in Burma during the year 1914-15.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Statistics of British India, Parts IV(*a*), IV(*b*), and VIII.

Provincial Settlement.

136. The receipts and expenditure of the Province other than those pertaining to Local authorities are divided between the Imperial and Provincial Governments according to the terms of what is known as the Provincial Settlement. The existing Provincial Settlement was drawn up in 1907, and its terms were subsequently modified in 1911, with a view to converting large fixed assignments which the Province then received from Imperial Revenues into shares of growing revenue. The modifications were summarised in the General Administration Report of Burma for the year 1911-12, while the Provincial Settlement of 1907 itself will be found fully described in the General Administration Report for the year 1907-08. There is no change to chronicle during the year of report.

Under the terms of the Settlement the Province receives an annual fixed assignment of Rs. 12·90 lakhs. But contributions from Imperial to Provincial Revenues generally exceed this sum, and in the year of report sums amounting to Rs. 51·33 lakhs were transferred to the credit of the Province as against sums amounting to Rs. 35·54 lakhs in the previous year.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

137. The gross receipts of the Province for the year of report amounted to Rs. 1157·34 lakhs as against Rs. 1296·03 lakhs in the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 952·62 lakhs as against Rs. 900·95 lakhs, receipts thus showing a decrease of Rs. 138·69 lakhs and expenditure an increase of Rs. 51·66 lakhs. Receipts classed as Imperial decreased by Rs. 85·68 lakhs from Rs. 442·67 lakhs to Rs. 356·99 lakhs, and receipts classed as Provincial by Rs. 11·24 lakhs from Rs. 561·45 lakhs to Rs. 550·21 lakhs. Receipts of District Funds rose from Rs. 42·99 lakhs to Rs. 47·36 lakhs, but receipts of Municipal Funds fell from Rs. 104·12 lakhs to Rs. 104·00 lakhs. The increase in expenditure was fairly general. Imperial expenditure increased by Rs. 7·95 lakhs from Rs. 69·61 lakhs

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to Rs. 77·56 lakhs, and Provincial expenditure by Rs. 44·01 lakhs from Rs. 552·31 lakhs to Rs. 596·32 lakhs. Expenditure from District Funds increased from Rs. 37·53 lakhs to Rs. 44·26 lakhs but from Municipal Funds fell from Rs. 111·69 lakhs to Rs. 109·28 lakhs. The receipts and expenditure from other funds were Rs. 98·78 lakhs and Rs. 125·20 lakhs as compared with Rs. 144·79 lakhs and Rs. 129·82 lakhs in the previous year.

These figures include the transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust and the Rangoon Pilot Fund, though they do not bank with Government.

(a) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

[*In this section are discussed sources of Revenue or Expenditure which are partly, as well as those which are wholly, Imperial.*]

Total Imperial figures: notable variations.

138. A gross decrease of Rs. 90·83 lakhs in Imperial receipts occurred under nine heads of revenue, and a gross increase of Rs 5·15 lakhs under four heads, leaving a net decrease of Rs. 85·68 lakhs for the year. Of the gross decrease Rs. 65·65 lakhs fell under the head "Customs," and Rs. 6·26 lakhs under the head "Land Revenue," and these decreases may be set down directly to the war, which as regards "Customs" affected tonnage and markets, and as regards "Land Revenue" destroyed credit, reduced prices, depressed the fishing, mining and petroleum industries, and restricted immigration. An increase of Rs. 15·79 lakhs from Rs. 35·54 lakhs to Rs. 51·33 lakhs in assignments of Imperial to Provincial Funds caused a corresponding decrease in receipts. Other large decreases were Rs. 1·30 lakh under the head "Irrigation—Major Works," Rs. 95,414 under "Stamps" and Rs. 29,068 under "Opium." Of the gross increase "Excise" accounted for Rs. 2·76 lakhs, "Income Tax" for Rs. 1·28 lakh, and "Salt" for Rs. 1·05 lakh, the first two of these branches of revenue not having felt as yet the full effects of the war, and the latter branch profiting by the abnormal conditions of the year. In expenditure a gross increase of Rs. 10·84 lakhs under some heads was partly offset by a gross decrease of Rs. 2·89 lakhs under other heads, the net increase being Rs. 7·95 lakhs. The principal increase fell under the head Civil Works (Public Works department) and amounted to Rs. 3·81 lakhs, a net increase of Rs. 3·75 lakhs under "Irrigation—Major Works" being largely nominal and due to book transfers. There was a decrease of Rs. 48,647 under "Agriculture" on some veterinary charges being provincialised.

Land Revenue.

Land revenue receipts.

139. The gross receipts under "Land Revenue" for the financial year ending the 31st March 1915 were Rs. 446·07 lakhs as against Rs. 463·08 lakhs in the previous year. Under the terms of the Provincial Settlement by which $\frac{8}{8}$ths of the receipts under this head are allotted to Imperial and $\frac{8}{8}$ths to Provincial Funds, Rs. 166·03 lakhs were credited to Imperial and Rs. 280·04 lakhs to Provincial Funds as against Rs. 172·29 lakhs and Rs. 290·79 lakhs respectively in 1913-14, thus showing decreases of Rs. 6·26 lakhs and Rs. 10·74 lakhs respectively. Expenditure under Land Revenue which is wholly debitable to Provincial Funds fell from Rs. 70·07 lakhs to Rs. 68·15 lakhs. Land Revenue proper, of which the collections during the year amounted to Rs. 283·08 lakhs or nearly Rs. $4\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs less than in 1913-14, is dealt with in Chapter II of this Report. Some items of miscellaneous revenue are also included under the head "Land Revenue." The capitation tax in Lower Burma yielded Rs. 56·26 lakhs as against Rs. 57·03 lakhs. The number of persons assessed to the tax fell by 20,956 and the remissions amounting to Rs. 1·55 lakh were the heaviest on record for many years. Outstandings at the end of the year were small. There are several reasons for the decrease in the yield of this tax; the declaration of war against Germany coinciding practically with the opening of the collection of the tax, the withdrawal of credit immediately on the declaration of war disorganising labour

and impeding collection, and the raid of the German cruiser the "Emden" restricting the influx of harvesters and coolies from India, from whom supplementary collections are generally levied in the cold weather, all influenced the returns. The decrease of immigrants was most marked in Akyab and Hanthawaddy: the total number of assessees in the former District fell by over 6,000. In Tharrawaddy remissions amounted to Rs. 14,224. In the Irrawaddy Division collections decreased by Rs. 73,367. Collections of land-rate in lieu of capitation tax show a slight increase from Rs. 87,527 to Rs. 89,014. Receipts from the *thathameda* tax in Upper Burma increased by Rs. 53,052 to Rs. 39·22 lakhs, the number of households assessed rising by 15,656. The increase was probably connected with the fall in the capitation tax in Lower Burma, the annual movement of harvesters to the lower portion of the Province being arrested by the unfavourable prospect there for labour. Except in the case of a few industries the economic effect of the war was far less felt in Upper than in Lower Burma, and although remissions were larger than in the previous year by Rs. 12,364 the tax was collected with little difficulty. Nearly all the Districts show some increase in the number of households assessed and in collections; but in the Ruby Mines District where the war brought about a complete collapse of the ruby market, there was a decrease of 1,338 in the number of households assessed and of Rs. 34,067 in the amount collected, including tribute, while in Mandalay, where remissions were more widely necessary than in the previous year owing to distress among the silk-weavers of the Amarapura Township, collections also fell slightly. Receipts under fishery revenue increased by Rs. 1·42 lakh, amounting to Rs. 34·91 lakhs as against Rs. 33·49 lakhs in the previous year. The demand showed an increase of Rs. 2·44 lakhs under leased fisheries and a fall of Rs. 32,419 under net licenses. Remissions fell slightly but the outstandings at the end of the year amounting to no less than Rs. 78,759 as against outstandings of a revised sum of Rs. 7,056 at the close of the previous year indicate an unprofitable season for the fishermen. In the Irrawaddy and Pegu Divisions difficulty was experienced in the disposal of the catch of fish owing to the failure of markets. Collections under the head "Miscellaneous land revenue" decreased from Rs. 41·12 lakhs to Rs. 36·59 lakhs. Under the sub-heads, "Rent of town lands not credited to local funds" increased by just over Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2·32 lakhs, while "Fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber" fell from Rs. 33·51 lakhs to Rs. 30·18 lakhs, and on "Other minerals" from Rs. 2·25 lakhs to Rs. 1·44 lakh. Receipts under the Village Act and survey fees for *pottas* also declined, but there was a small increase under "Other miscellaneous land revenue" from Rs. 38,770 to Rs. 43,997.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

140. The concluding paragraphs of Chapter IV deal with the canals and irrigation works of the Province and the revenue obtained from them during the year of report. Receipts and expenditure on Major Irrigation Works—including the works now in progress on the Twante Canal which is only used for navigation—are wholly Imperial. Those of the other works referred to in the paragraphs above mentioned are wholly Provincial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

141. Both receipts and expenditure under the head "Customs" are classified as Imperial. Receipts under this head do not include the import duty on salt which is classed under the head "Salt." The total receipts for the year under the head "Customs" fell by Rs. 65·65 lakhs from Rs. 186·43 lakhs to Rs. 120·78 lakhs, the decrease being ascribable to the war. The receipts from both imports and exports fell heavily: in the former case by Rs. 28·42 lakhs and in the latter by Rs. 37·18 lakhs. The reasons for these decreases are discussed in the paragraphs of this Report dealing with trade. The expenditure on Customs fell

Customs.

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slightly from Rs. 6·45 lakhs to Rs. 6·36 lakhs, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 114·42 lakhs as against a net revenue of Rs. 179·98 lakhs in the previous year.

Opium.

142. There is no expenditure under the Imperial Accounts head "Opium" in Burma, and receipts include only the payments made by the Government of Burma to the Government of Bengal for the purchase of opium. All other receipts and expenditure in connection with opium are included under the head "Excise" which will be discussed later. Owing to a decreased consumption of opium in the country, purchases by the Government of Burma declined, and the receipts under the head "Opium" fell in consequence from Rs. 3·79 lakhs to Rs. 3·50 lakhs.

Salt—General.

143. No change was made during the year in the law affecting salt or in the methods of the collection of the duty. Duty was still collected direct on the actual output in seven Districts, and assessed by means of a composition duty elsewhere. The rates of the duty directly levied on the output were raised with effect from the 1st January 1914 from 10 to 12 annas a maund, and the composition duty on vessels was raised by 20 per cent. The cost of the salt establishment amounted to Rs. 47,924, which is an increase of Rs. 877 on the revised figure of Rs. 47,047 for 1913. The strength of the staff remained unchanged.

Supplies of Salt.

144. The output of salt in the seven Districts under the system of direct taxation fell from 739,407 maunds in 1913 to 542,463; in the other Districts under the system of composition duty the estimated output for the year was 43,411 as against the estimated output of 45,886 maunds in 1913. The number of licenses taken out in the Districts under the system of direct taxation fell from 280 to 232, each District showing a decrease. This decrease was heaviest in the Myaungmya District where licenses declined from 15 to 4. In spite of the fall in the number of licenses, there was an increase in the number of vessels used in two of the Districts, the number of pots in the Kyaukpyu District rising from 6,590 to 7,078 and of cauldrons in the Mergui District from 32 to 37. The Kyaukpyu District however alone increased its output and the reduced output of Burma-made salt corresponds generally to the fall in licenses and vessels employed. In the Districts under the system of composition duty, licenses fell from 886 to 726, pots increased by one, while cauldrons fell from 852 to 687. No District records an increase in the number of licenses issued, but the only striking decrease was in the Shwebo District, where licenses fell from 363 to 265, while the vessels employed fell from 390 to 284 with an estimated output of 8,811 maunds as compared with 12,303 in 1913. The total number of licenses of both classes thus fell from 1,166 in 1913 to 958, the general decrease being due to enhanced duties. The quantity of Burma-made salt issued from bond during the year fell from 758,110 maunds to 492,243 maunds, and, including the output in the Districts under the system of composition duty, the proportion of Burma-made salt to the total amount of salt consumed was 21·8 per cent. as against 32 per cent. in 1913. The duty levied on Burma-made salt amounted to Rs. 3·93 lakhs as against Rs. 4·94 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of foreign salt increased by 30·4 per cent. from 1,808,036 maunds in 1913 to 2,358,468, the highest quantity ever imported. The amount of duty realised increased by Rs. 2·16 lakhs, or 12·7 per cent., from Rs. 17·02 lakhs to Rs. 19·18 lakhs. The outbreak of the war caused a decrease of 303,379 maunds in the quantity imported from Germany, and interfered with imports of English salt, which decreased by 78,788 maunds. But the advance in price stimulated imports from other countries, and increased imports of Spanish, Egyptian, Port Said and Salif salt more than made good the threatened deficiency. The quantity in bond at the end of the year increased largely from 273,861 maunds at the end of 1913 to 629,380 maunds. Imports of salted fish fell from 188,641 maunds in 1913 to 169,003, the decrease during the year of report being attributed to a more successful fishing season in the Province. The total revenue derived from salt and salted fish during the year was Rs. 23·72 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 22·64 lakhs in 1913.

Excise—General.

145. The year shows a rise of over Rs. 5 lakhs in the gross receipts from excise from Rs. 87·17 lakhs to Rs. 92·39 lakhs and an increase in net receipts of over Rs. 5½ lakhs from Rs. 71·64 lakhs to Rs. 77·18 lakhs. The total opium revenue decreased by Rs. 2·24 lakhs, but the revenue from liquor rose by Rs. 7·37 lakhs. The outbreak of the war caused a considerable derangement of business and the abandonment of numerous liquor licenses, which were resold for Rs. 1¼ lakh less than the unpaid instalments of the original auction prices. The licensees' fears, however, of loss of trade during the continuance of the war would seem to have been exaggerated. The total expenditure on the conjoint Excise and Salt establishments fell from Rs. 15·53 lakhs to Rs. 15·21 lakhs, of which 3⅔ per cent. is debitable to the Imperial head "Salt." Reductions in purchases of Excise opium for supply to licensed shops, and in contingencies, including rewards, more than offset an increase in establishment charges of Rs. 10,623, which was due to the cadres of the establishment being more fully recruited.

Excise—Opium.

146. The total opium revenue fell from Rs. 39·17 lakhs to Rs. 36·93 lakhs. This amount does not include fines, confiscations and other miscellaneous receipts, which amount to Rs. 1·68 lakh and show an increase of Rs. 9,674, brought about by the sale-proceeds of larger issues of confiscated opium. There was no change in the number of shops which remained at 124, but license fees fell from Rs. 1·05 lakh to Rs. 1·04 lakh. The total quantity of opium, both excise and confiscated, issued to shops fell from 46,251 seers in 1913-14 to 43,391 seers in the year of report. The consumption of opium in the last ten years has been reduced by 39,761 seers, equivalent to 47·82 per cent.; in the last five years the reduction amounts to 29·35 per cent. Issues fell in 22 Districts and rose in 10, but the increases were relatively unimportant. The largest increase occurred in the Tavoy District and amounted to 161 seers, the Districts of Amherst and Bhamo coming next with 156 and 91 seers, respectively. The increase in the Tavoy District is ascribed to an increase in the Chinese population, in the Amherst District probably to the same cause, and in the Bhamo District to a shortage of the hill opium reducing the usual illicit supplies. There are striking decreases in Rangoon Town of 683 seers, in the Ruby Mines District of 538 seers, and in Henzada of 494 seers, together with substantial decreases in several other Districts. These decreases are due to the continued adjustment of supplies to the real consumption and means of the purchaser. The number of registered Burman consumers fell further from 10,099 to 9,254. There were 2,887 arrests and 2,398 convictions under the Opium Act, as against 2,872 and 2,326, respectively, in the previous year. The percentage of convictions to arrests is 83·06 as against 82·28 in 1913-14. The total quantity of contraband opium seized fell slightly by 39 seers to 2,370 seers. Of this 1,036 seers were seized in Rangoon on ocean-going and coasting steamers and 34½ seers on riverine vessels, and, so far as can be judged, the illicit trade in opium from India to Burma has continued on much the same scale as in the previous year. It is becoming more clearly established every year that no material suppression of the smuggling of opium into Burma can be expected, until better control can be exercised over supplies of opium in India.

Excise—Liquors.

147. The outbreak of the war dislocated trade, and the total imports of spirit into Burma from foreign countries fell considerably by 69,124 gallons to 221,079 gallons. The quantity of whisky imported was 91,824 gallons and the decrease 2,504 gallons, but brandy, gin and rum show much heavier decreases. Imports of ale, beer and porter fell by 617,051 to 731,618 gallons. The decrease in the value of potable spirits imported amounted to Rs. 5·21 lakhs, and in that of beer and other fermented liquors to Rs. 13·57 lakhs. The number of wholesale licenses for the sale of foreign liquors rose by one to 89 and of retail licenses by 3 to 141. License fees for the sale of imported liquors realized over a lakh of rupees more than in the previous year, rising from Rs. 9·30 lakhs to Rs. 10·38 lakhs. Of 20 Districts in Lower Burma no fewer than 17 showed moderate increases. Issues of beer from the Mandalay Brewery fell from 203,519 to 164,676 gallons, mainly owing to the withdrawal of British troops from the Province. Foreign spirit was manufactured during the year at the Mandalay, Moulmein and Toungoo distilleries.

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There was a greater demand for this spirit owing to shortage in foreign supplies and the duty on it rose by Rs. 56,813 to Rs. 2·18 lakhs. Retail licenses for the sale of beer manufactured locally increased by one to 24 and the fees by Rs. 280 to Rs. 18,694, while licenses for the sale of spirit similarly manufactured fell from 20 to 11 on a readjustment of shops in the Toungoo District. The Contract Distillery System was not extended during the year. The amount realized as duty on country distillery spirit fell from Rs. 3·63 lakhs to Rs. 3·20 lakhs corresponding to a reduced consumption. The number of retail licenses rose slightly by 4 to 142. Two of these licenses were issued in the Toungoo District in completion of the process of substituting contract distillery spirit for locally produced spirit excised at the tariff rate, one was issued in the Mergui and one in the Ruby Mines District. License fees for distillery spirit rose by over a lakh from Rs. 2·27 lakhs in 1913-14 to Rs. 3·28 lakhs. Lower Burma accounted for almost the whole increase, the share of Upper Burma being only Rs. 2,130. Decreases of Rs. 17,300 in Rangoon and Rs. 2,957 in the Henzada District were more than balanced by general heavy increases in the Tenasserim and Arakan Divisions. Receipts in outstill areas rose by Rs. 6,486 to Rs. 27,366. This system is now only to be found in five Districts in remote localities, difficult of access. The number of "tari" licenses fell by 36 to 676. Within the last 13 years there has been a reduction of "tari" shops of nearly 50 per cent. The bulk of the reduction effected during the year was in the Akyab District. The fees for the licenses rose by Rs. 54,678 from Rs. 8·10 lakhs to Rs. 8·64 lakhs. The increase was most marked in Upper Burma where every "tari" producing District showed an advance with the exception of one, in which a trifling decrease of Rs. 160 occurred. In the Mandalay District the increase was Rs. 7,710. In Lower Burma there was no such general increase. In Rangoon the fees rose by Rs. 11,663 to Rs. 1·31 lakh owing to competition between two parties of Indian bidders, and in the Bassein District by Rs. 6,832 to Rs. 28,080. In the Akyab District they declined by about Rs. 6,000. Licenses for country fermented liquor other than "tari" fell by one to 376, but the license fees increased by no less than Rs. 4·69 lakhs from Rs. 20·51 lakhs to Rs. 25·20 lakhs. The licenses in Rangoon fetched almost a lakh of rupees more while the other Districts in the Pegu Division all record large advances. The Henzada and Toungoo Districts also show large increases, while the decreases in the Bassein and Thatôn Districts are unimportant. In Upper Burma these licenses occupy a comparatively unimportant position. Receipts increased there by Rs. 11,187 to Rs. 57,200. The greater part of the increase, *viz.* Rs. 7,200 was from the Thayetmyo District. Samples of rice beer were tested during the year and served to show that the rice beer now sold was a wholesome beverage of reasonably good quality. The total revenue from all excisable liquors for the year rose from Rs. 46·41 lakhs to Rs. 53·78 lakhs. The outbreak of the war caused difficulties in the collection, and a small sum of Rs. 34,288 was written off as irrecoverable. A sum of Rs. 94,355 was outstanding at the close of the year.

The number of arrests and convictions for offences relating to country spirit were 1,453 arrests and 1,178 convictions as against 1,573 arrests and 1,275 convictions in the previous year. Convictions in respect to country fermented liquor of all classes fell by 80 from 3,043 to 2,963. Cases reported by magistrates in which intoxicating liquor was a sole or a contributory cause of the crime increased by 32 to 281. But these statistics are said to be unreliable.

Ganja, Cocaine and Morphia.

148. The quantity of ganja seized during the year fell by 209 to 1,202 seers. Progress was made in repressing illicit cultivation in the Ruby Mines District. The consumption of this drug is confined entirely to the immigrant Indian population.

The main source of supply of cocaine in the past has been in Germany, and the outbreak of the war cut it off. The illicit traffic in the drug was, however, not immediately affected owing to large reserve stocks, licit and illicit, believed to have been held in India and the Far East. But these stocks are running down, and prices are ruling so high that consumption has declined. Convictions for offences in connection with this drug fell by 129 to 1,319. The quantity seized fell from

3,573 to 2,124 ounces avoirdupois. The future course of events depends on the ability of European manufacturers to provide supplies.

Convictions for offences in connection with morphia fell by 284 to 231. The chief decreases were in Rangoon from 425 to 180 and in the Henzada District from 66 to 29. The morphia habit is confined to the six Districts of the Pegu Division and to the Henzada District in the Irrawaddy Division. Seizures of morphia fell to 109,896 grains. The use of the drug is said not to be spreading owing to its high price and the trouble of the injection.

Stamps.

149. The gross receipts under the Stamp Act and the Court-fees Act amounted to Rs. 34·28 lakhs, the lowest figure for the past ten years, as against Rs. 36·20 lakhs in the previous year. The receipts under the Stamp Act dropped by Rs. 2·92 lakhs to Rs. 14·13 lakhs, while the receipts under the Court-fees Act rose by Rs. 1·00 lakh to Rs. 20·15 lakhs. The contraction of credit, and the falling off of trade on the outbreak of war with the consequent efforts on the part of money lenders to realise their loans through the courts are given in explanation of these figures. The receipts on account of Judicial Stamps under the Court-fees Act, Rs. 19·83 lakhs are larger than for the two previous years, but otherwise are lower than for any year since 1904-05. The increase over the previous year is Rs. 70,716: increases are shown by 12 Districts in Lower Burma and by 6 in Upper Burma, while 9 Districts in Lower and 10 in Upper Burma show decreases. Over half a lakh of the increase comes from Rangoon Town, where it is noted that this is the first increase for the last three years; but a large part of the increase is accounted for by a fee of Rs. 46,225 paid on an application for letters of administration of a large estate. All stamps under the Stamp Act, except Notarial stamps, show decreases. Under engraved sheets, the decreases are largest in Rangoon Town, and the Thatôn and Amherst Districts, where they average Rs. 10,000, the total decrease for the Province amounting to Rs. 1·16 lakh. "Hundis" which in the previous year exceeded half a lakh of rupees amounted to but a little over half this sum. Impressed sheets dropped by Rs. 1·16 lakh of which Rs. 1·10 lakh came from Rangoon Town alone. Foreign bill stamps like hundis fell to nearly half the figure of the previous year, while share transfer stamps fell to less than half, and are now about one-fourth of what they were a few years ago. The number of licensed Stamp Vendors was increased by 42 from 2,407 to 2,449. Courts dealt with 929 insufficiently stamped or unstamped documents as against 994 in the previous year, and levied Rs. 9,038 as duty and penalty as against Rs. 10,353, while Collectors dealt with 455 such uses as against 476, and levied Rs. 41,320 as against Rs. 42,684. The number of cases dealt with by Collectors is the lowest for ten years. The number of prosecutions fell from 46 to 25, of which 9 were from the Minbu District. Of 44 persons brought to trial 39 were convicted, and the high percentage of convictions recorded shows that the cases were well selected. Enquiries were instituted into 377 valuations of Estates made in connection with applications for probate or letters of administration as against 423 in the previous year, but there was an increase in the amount of deficit Court-fees required from Rs. 3,321 to Rs. 4,017. In Rangoon Town a penalty of Rs. 30,285 was levied in a case of misdeclaration for probate.

Charges on account of discount and establishment for the sale of stamps fell from Rs. 63,517 to Rs. 57,391. The cost of stamps supplied from the Central Depôt again fell from Rs. 9,808 to Rs. 6,847. The total charges were higher than in 1913, but refunds were larger. The total net receipts under both Acts were Rs. 33·01 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 35·12 lakhs in the previous year.

Assessed Taxes.

150. Receipts and expenditure under the head assessed taxes are credited and debited respectively in equal shares to Imperial and Provincial Funds. The Income-Tax Act is applicable to the whole of Burma, but was completely operative only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay Town. It was not extended to new areas during the year. The method of assessment and the agencies employed remained unchanged. No changes were made in the Act or Rules, but the provision in Direction 5 for the assessment and collection of the tax in Akyab by the revenue surveyor was cancelled. The net yield of the tax for the year was Rs. 25·08

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lakhs, showing an increase of 10 per cent. on the net yield of the previous year, which stood at Rs. 22·84 lakhs. This result is due to a large increase of Rs. 2·12 lakhs derived from the tax on "profits of companies"; but save under the head "other sources of income," where there was a decrease of less than one-tenth per cent., increases are recorded under all heads. Of the total amount produced by the tax, Rs. 14·93 lakhs were from Rangoon as against Rs. 12·76 lakhs in 1913-14.

The number of assessees paying income-tax on "salaries, pensions, and gratuities paid by Government," increased from 5,446 to 5,566, and the amount paid by them, excluding the deductions on commission paid to *thugyis*, by Rs. 16,203 from Rs. 3·84 lakhs to Rs. 4·01 lakhs. These increases of approximately 2½ and 4 per cent. respectively are probably due to the recall of officers to duty on the outbreak of the war. The total amount of the tax on "interest on securities" increased by Rs. 2,206 to Rs. 31,766. The amount collected on "salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by local authorities" was practically the same as in the previous year, but the number of assessees rose to 1,054 and is the highest yet recorded. The tax on "salaries paid by private employers" collected direct under section 9 (1) of the Act fell from Rs. 1·03 lakh to Rs. 84,325, but that collected under section 9 (2) through the agency of the employers rose from Rs. 2·63 lakhs to Rs. 2·84 lakhs. The net increase under this head is Rs. 2,220 and the total is the highest hitherto recorded; but the number of assessees shows a small decrease for the first time since 1903-04. The tax was collected by employers in the case of 67 per cent. of the assessees, 118 firms thus assisting in Rangoon. The tax on the profits of companies yielded Rs. 6·90 lakhs as against Rs. 4·78 lakhs in 1913-14 or an increase of over 44 per cent., though the profits of only 75 companies were assessed as against 81 in the previous year. In Rangoon where 98·5 per cent. under this head is paid the final demand was Rs. 7·14 lakhs from 64 companies against Rs. 4·74 lakhs from 62 companies in 1913-14. Exemption was granted to 66 companies on production of certificates of payment of the tax in India. The tax on "other sources of income" produced Rs. 9·66 lakhs as against Rs. 9·67 lakhs in the previous year. Assessees decreased by 22 to 14,796. Increases of 89 or 18 per cent. in Prome, and of 20 or 18 per cent. in Sandoway in the number of assessees are attributed to a careful preparation of the assessment rolls, and of 68 or 13 per cent. in Akyab and of 40 or 10 per cent. in Thatôn to the good harvest of the previous years. The most notable decreases occurred in Tavoy, Mergui and Toungoo, where they were 19, 15, and 9½ per cent. respectively. In Tavoy assessees fell to 176 and collections to Rs. 12,040 from 218 and Rs. 23,091 respectively, owing to bad trade and the closing down of several wolfram mines. In Mergui with 27 fewer assessees, collections fell by Rs. 2,480 or nearly 31 per cent., the decrease being due generally to bad trade and the reduction of pearling licenses. A decline of 57 assessees in Toungoo is attributed to depression in trade caused by the war. A fall of 91 in the number of assessees in Rangoon is attributed to the same cause, but collections increased there by Rs. 11,239. Revision of assessments by Collectors and Commissioners reduced the original demand of Rs. 11·90 lakhs payable by 17,065 assessees to Rs. 10·07 lakhs payable by 15,304 assessees, or approximately 15 and 10 per cent. respectively. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 64,013, the highest hitherto recorded. In the previous year it was Rs. 43,350. Rangoon was responsible for Rs. 49,292, but of this Rs. 34,713 was due from five companies which declared their profits late. A large outstanding balance of Rs. 10,907 in Tavoy was due to late assessment. Refunds increased from Rs. 13,435 to Rs. 36,046, the highest figure on record, due to the effect of the outbreak of the war. The tax was collected with little or no difficulty. The only Districts in which it was necessary to issue coercive processes to any extent were Rangoon Town, Pegu and Toungoo. In Rangoon 380 warrants were issued as against 227 in 1913-14 and penalties to the extent of Rs. 5,657 were imposed as against Rs. 1,822.

The total expenditure incurred in the assessment and collection of the tax fell by Rs. 633 or 1⅛ per cent. to Rs. 51,147. The percentage of expenditure to total collection was 2·04, the lowest figure recorded in the past twenty years.

(b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

Provincial Receipts and Expenditure.

Provincial receipts.

151. The Provincial receipts for the year 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 550·21 lakhs as against Rs. 561·45 lakhs in the previous year. The net decrease of Rs. 11·24 lakhs resulted from a gross decrease of Rs. 33·60 lakhs under some heads of revenue, partly counterbalanced by a gross increase of Rs. 22·36 lakhs under other heads. Generally speaking decreases may be ascribed to the war, the branches of revenue which show increases not having felt as yet the full force of the effects of the war. The principal branches of revenue suffered most; receipts under the head Land Revenue fell by Rs. 10·74 lakhs from Rs. 290·79 lakhs to Rs. 280·05 lakhs, under Forests by Rs. 18·64 lakhs from Rs. 115·72 lakhs to Rs. 97·08 lakhs, under Stamps by Rs. 95,413 from Rs. 18·10 lakhs to Rs. 17·14 lakhs, under Irrigation—Minor Works and Navigation—by Rs. 66,338 from Rs. 13·69 lakhs to Rs. 13·02 lakhs and under Registration by Rs. 17,106 from Rs. 2·48 lakhs to Rs. 2·31 lakhs. The heads Ports and Pilotage, and Law and Justice—Jails also show heavy decreases of Rs. 96,958 and Rs. 73,446 respectively. On the other hand receipts under Excise rose by Rs. 2·76 lakhs from Rs. 41·71 lakhs to Rs. 44·47 lakhs, under Income-Tax by Rs. 1·28 lakh from Rs. 11·45 lakhs to Rs. 12·73 lakhs, under Police by Rs. 1·83 lakh from Rs. 4·62 lakhs to Rs. 6·45 lakhs, and under Education from Rs. 2·89 lakhs to Rs. 3·54 lakhs. But the greater part of the gross increase is accounted for by the increase of Rs. 15·79 lakhs in the assignments from Imperial to Provincial Funds from Rs. 35·54 lakhs to Rs. 51·33 lakhs.

Provincial expenditure.

152. The Provincial expenditure for the year rose from Rs. 552·31 lakhs to Rs. 596·32 lakhs. There was a gross increase of Rs. 50·70 lakhs under certain heads and a gross decrease of Rs. 6·69 lakhs under other heads, the net increase being Rs. 44·01 lakhs. The increase was fairly general. Expenditure under Civil Works (Public Works department) rose by Rs. 17·37 lakhs from Rs. 92·81 lakhs to Rs. 110·18 lakhs, under Medical by Rs. 11·45 lakhs from Rs. 20·70 lakhs to Rs. 32·15 lakhs, under Political by Rs. 4·68 lakhs from Rs. 13·58 lakhs to Rs. 18·26 lakhs, the expenditure in this case being incurred in connection with the administration of the new Putao District, under Education by Rs. 2·43 lakhs from Rs. 29·24 lakhs to Rs. 31·67 lakhs and under Police by Rs. 3·57 lakhs from Rs. 131·18 lakhs to Rs. 134·75 lakhs. There were also large increases of over one lakh of rupees under Law and Justice—Courts of Law, Ports and Pilotage and Superannuation Allowances and Pensions. A decrease in expenditure of Rs. 1·92 lakh from Rs. 70·07 lakhs to Rs. 68·15 lakhs occurred under the head Land Revenue, of Rs. 2·55 lakhs from Rs. 18·33 lakhs to Rs. 15·78 lakhs under Law and Justice—Jails, and of Rs. 2·12 lakhs from Rs. 8·30 lakhs to Rs. 6·18 lakhs under Civil Works (Civil).

Forests.

153. The Forest Department Report deals with the year ending on the 30th June 1915 and the figures of revenue and expenditure given in it therefore differ from those compiled in the Financial Department. The gross revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 90·47 lakhs, as against Rs. 114·09 lakhs in the previous year, a decrease of Rs. 23·62 lakhs. Revenue from timber extracted by Government agency and by purchasers fell approximately by Rs. 10 lakhs each and that from drift and confiscated produce by some Rs. 2 lakhs. It should, however, be taken into account that the value of timber and other stock awaiting disposal in sale depôts at the close of the year showed on a conservative estimate an increase of Rs. 9 lakhs over the previous year's figures. The expenditure during the year increased from Rs. 45·17 lakhs to Rs. 46·89 lakhs. Expenditure on extraction of timber by Government agency rose by some Rs. 2 lakhs and there were slight increases under all the other heads except "Extension and Improvement of Forests," under which there was a decrease of over Rs. 1½ lakh due to repayment by lessees of the compensation paid in the previous year on account of the Paunglaung Elephant Grazing Reserve. There

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were also slight increases in expenditure under all heads charged to "Establishment." The net revenue fell from Rs. 68·92 lakhs to Rs. 43·58 lakhs, and the percentage of net to gross revenue from 60 to 48.

Local Funds.

District Cess Funds.

154. A District Cess Fund is maintained by each District in Lower Burma. No change occurred in the number of such funds during the year. The total receipts of all the funds during the year amounted to Rs. 34·83 lakhs as against Rs. 32·99 lakhs in the previous year, the net increase being Rs. 1·84 lakh. This was mainly due to an increase of Rs. 22,571 and Rs. 2·81 lakhs under the heads "Education" and "Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers," partly counterbalanced by decreases of Rs. 78,176, Rs. 26,127, Rs. 12,771 and Rs. 6,559 under the respective heads, "Provincial Rates", "Police", "Medical," and "Miscellaneous." Larger grants made during the year from Provincial Funds towards expenditure on local education, and an improvement of revenue from ferries together with larger grants from Provincial Funds for works of public utility explain the increases under "Education" and "Civil Works." The decrease under "Provincial Rates" resulted from the fall of the land revenue. The main source of income of these funds is a 10 per cent. cess on land revenue, and the receipts fluctuate with it. In the year of report this cess yielded Rs. 22·58 lakhs as against Rs. 23·37 lakhs in 1913-14, and the Hanthawaddy, Insein, Bassein, Ma-ubin, Amherst and Toungoo Districts were chiefly responsible for the decrease. Smaller receipts from the license fees for slaughter-houses and from the sale of unclaimed cattle account for the fall in receipts under "Police" to Rs. 1·55 lakh. A refund of Rs. 13,632 was made from the Pegu District Cess Fund on account of expenditure on plague in 1913-14, and the omission of this item turns the decrease under the head "Medical" in the year of report to a small increase. The total expenditure of the funds during the year was Rs. 36·28 lakhs as against Rs. 29·81 lakhs in 1913-14, the net increase being Rs. 6·47 lakhs. The largest items of expenditure were Rs. 19·87 lakhs under the head "Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers," Rs. 6·96 lakhs under "Education," Rs. 3·73 lakhs under "Medical," and Rs. 1·65 lakh under "Miscellaneous." Of these the expenditure under "Civil Works in charge of Public Works Officers" shows an increase of Rs. 4·86 lakhs on the expenditure of 1913-14, but the sums under this head fluctuate according to the sums available and the ability to carry out the programme of works. The increase is shared by nearly every District. There were also increases of Rs. 1·08 lakh in the expenditure under "Education" and of Rs. 23,238 under "Medical." A decrease of Rs. 21,973 in the expenditure under "Provincial Rates" follows on the reduction in the receipts of land revenue.. No fund overdrew the balance at its credit during the year. The total closing balance of all the funds at the close of the year was Rs. 29·11 lakhs as against Rs. 30·57 lakhs at the close of the previous year.

District Funds.

155. Each District in Upper Burma maintains a District Fund. These funds are not endowed as in Lower Burma with a cess on land revenue but derive their income from various sources such as bazaar rents, slaughter-house licenses, ferries and contributions from Provincial Funds. Their receipts are much lower than those enjoyed by the District Cess Funds of Lower Burma. The total receipts of District Funds during the year amounted to Rs. 12·53 lakhs as against Rs. 10·00 lakhs in the previous year, the net increase being Rs. 2·53 lakhs. The total expenditure for the year was Rs. 7·98 lakhs as against Rs. 7·71 lakhs the net increase being Rs. 26,722. In receipts there was an increase of Rs. 7,519 to Rs. 7,859 under "Medical" due to a contribution of Rs. 7,651 made from the Pyawbwè Town Committee Fund to the Yaméthin District Fund, and an increase of Rs. 2·84 lakhs to Rs. 7·25 lakhs under the head "Civil Works in charge of Civil Officers," explained by the contributions made from Provincial Funds to the District Funds for the maintenance of provincial roads. The fall of Rs. 8,549 under "Police" to Rs. 2·04 lakhs is accounted for by diminished receipts from

slaughter-house fees and of Rs. 29,630 under "Miscellaneous" by the fact that no contributions were received from Municipal and Local Bodies during the year. The bulk of the expenditure was incurred on Civil Works, on which a sum of Rs. 6·57 lakhs was spent, showing a slight increase of Rs. 27,067 on the sum spent in the previous year. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year. The total closing balance of all the funds on the 31st of March 1915 was Rs. 9·93 lakhs as against a closing balance of Rs. 5·38 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

Other Funds.

156. Other local funds consist of the Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Rangoon Police Reward, Steam-boiler Inspection and Educational Syndicate Funds. The number of Cantonment Funds was seven as in the previous year. The aggregate opening balance of these funds was Rs. 1·46 lakh. Excluding debt accounts and Government loans, the total receipts amounted to Rs. 1·80 lakh and the total expenditure to Rs. 2·79 lakhs. As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease of Rs. 50,953 in receipts and an increase of Rs. 31,377 in expenditure during the year. Decreases in receipts occurred in all cantonments except Thayetmyo, while increases in expenditure took place in Rangoon and Mandalay. In Rangoon a loan of Rs. 50,000 with interest at Rs. 2,000 was repaid to Government, while the expenditure on public works was more than in the previous year by Rs. 13,190. On the other hand refunds were less by Rs. 34,050. In Mandalay the expenditure showed an increase of Rs. 16,046, a large outlay being made on public works. The increase in receipts in Thayetmyo was Rs. 2,154. The closing balance of each of the funds was lower than in the previous year, except in the cases of Meiktila and Thayetmyo. In Rangoon the closing balance was Rs. 25,316 as against Rs. 80,108, and in Mandalay Rs. 11,418 as against Rs. 45,605. Larger receipts enabled the Fund at Thayetmyo to increase its closing balance from Rs. 492 to Rs. 2,068. All the funds were solvent at the end of the year. The number of Town Funds was 19, as in the previous year. The total income and expenditure of these funds were Rs. 9·26 lakhs and Rs. 9·37 lakhs, respectively, as compared with Rs. 8·27 lakhs and Rs. 7·50 lakhs in 1913-14. Receipts were swollen by a contribution of Rs. 91,697 made by Government to the Kalaw Town Fund for water-works, and expenditure by this Fund's initial expenditure of Rs. 1·16 lakh. There was an aggregate increase of Rs. 1·44 lakh in the expenditure of the Kyôndpyaw, Minhla, Pyawbwè and Thôngwa Town Funds, while on the other hand Maymyo showed a decrease of Rs. 1·04 lakh and Lashio of Rs. 18,180. In ten of the funds expenditure exceeded receipts. The aggregate total of the closing balances amounted to Rs. 4·31 lakhs as against Rs. 4·42 lakhs in the previous year. Five of the funds showed a smaller closing balance; in the case of the Nattalin Town Fund the balance fell from Rs. 6,546 to Rs. 1,747. All the funds were solvent at the close of the year.

Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust, there were six Port Funds. The total receipts and expenditure were Rs. 4·23 lakhs and Rs. 4·83 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 5·62 lakhs and Rs. 6·01 lakhs, respectively, in 1913-14. Decreases in receipts occurred in all the six funds, but while expenditure fell in Bassein, Akyab, Mergui, and Tavoy, it rose in Moulmein and Kyaukpyu from Rs. 1·71 lakh and Rs. 5,364 to Rs. 1·75 lakh and Rs. 6,380, respectively. Expenditure exceeded receipts in the Moulmein, Akyab, Mergui and Kyaukpyu Port Funds, and the closing balances of these funds fell. In the case of Moulmein, the balance fell from Rs. 73,779 to Rs. 28,973. Some months after the outbreak of the war this fund found itself in difficulties, and certain remedial measures were sanctioned by Government until the Port could resume its ordinary routine. The closing balances of the other five Port Funds were satisfactory. The Moulmein and Tavoy Port Funds are indebted to Government to the extent of Rs. 70,813 and Rs. 70,875 respectively. The four Pilot Funds derive their receipts from pilotage fees, and the expenditure consists mainly of the cost of the maintenance of pilot vessels and payments to pilots. The expenditure of the Rangoon Pilot Fund exceeded the receipts by Rs. 21,146 during the year. The state of the fund was not satisfactory, and the Port Commissioners were called upon to report on the measures necessary for the re-establishment of the fund on a sound basis. The Fund at the close of the year had a balance of Rs. 44,068. In the Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein Pilot

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Funds the expenditure also exceeded the receipts, the credit balances at the close of the year falling to Rs. 7,957, Rs. 3,910 and Rs. 4,028, respectively. The Rangoon Police Reward Fund had a closing balance of Rs. 58 as compared with Rs. 48 in the previous year. The receipts and expenditure of the Steam-boiler Inspection Fund were Rs. 84,047 and Rs. 1·33 lakh, as against Rs. 80,306 and Rs. 54,966 in 1913-14. The sum of Rs. 1·33 lakh includes an expenditure of Rs. 71,487 spent on the purchase of Government securities during the year. The average receipts of the last three years have been in excess of the average expenditure by Rs. 25,800. The fund holds Government securities to the value of Rs. 1·25 lakh and had a closing balance of Rs. 57,863. The total income of the Educational Syndicate was Rs. 52,330, of which Rs. 20,223 was contributed by Government, and the total expenditure Rs. 54,755. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 15,886.

Road and Education Cesses.

157. In Lower Burma contributions to education and local public works are made by the District Cess Funds which have been discussed in paragraph 154. No special cesses for these purposes are levied in the Province.

Municipal Revenues.

Rangoon Municipality.

158. Including the opening balance of Rs. 16·45 lakhs, the gross receipts of the Rangoon Municipality for the year amounted to Rs. 64·18 lakhs as against Rs. 80·93 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding the opening balance the total receipts fell short of the previous year's receipts by Rs. 5 lakhs, but the decrease is nominal and is accounted for by a credit in the previous year of a sum of Rs. 4·15 lakhs realized from the sale of securities in the sinking fund for the repayment of instalments of loans. Exclusive of the opening balance and loans, advances, deposits, and realisations from the sale of securities, the ordinary income amounted to Rs. 43·53 lakhs, exceeding that of the previous year by Rs. 1·44 lakh. The gross expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 54·54 lakhs and was less than that of the preceding year by Rs. 9·94 lakhs. Excluding charges on works paid from loans, repayments of loans from the sinking fund and the figures under suspense account, the ordinary expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 43·98 lakhs, showing a decrease of Rs. 46,000 as compared with the previous year. On the figures for the year ordinary expenditure thus exceeded ordinary receipts by some Rs. 45,000 and gross expenditure gross receipts by Rs. 6·82 lakhs. The closing balance fell from Rs. 16·45 lakhs to Rs. 9·64 lakhs.

Collections from Rates and Taxes amounted to Rs. 32·75 lakhs and the increase of Rs. 2·76 lakhs under this head is due partly to the revision of assessments and the taxation of new properties and partly to the re-adjustment of rates of taxation; the water, lighting and scavenging taxes were raised from the 1st October 1914, by one, one-half, and one per cent. respectively, and the general tax reduced from 9 to 7 per cent. Realizations under Special Acts decreased from Rs. 29,544 to Rs. 14,245; but the decrease is nominal as the receipts under the Hackney Carriages Act are still to be credited. The depression in trade influenced the miscellaneous receipts derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation, which show a total decrease of Rs. 89,000, among other items pawnshop license fees declining by Rs. 65,711, receipts from market and slaughter houses by Rs. 44,208, and fees from hand cart licenses by Rs. 12,078. On the other hand there were increases of Rs. 30,958 under rent of lands and houses and of Rs. 2,877 under conservancy, while motor omnibuses and taxi-cabs—a new source of taxation—provided Rs. 3,340. In expenditure the curtailment of the road programme reduced the outlay under this head from Rs. 8·04 lakhs to Rs. 5·96 lakhs. But the Rs. 2 lakhs saved in this direction were swallowed up by increases under other heads, of which the chief items were: Rs. 73,000 under

General Administration, due to an extraordinary charge in connection with the new Municipal office, which would have been met ordinarily from loans, Rs. 23,000 under water supply, and Rs. 27,000 under drainage works.

Omitting the loans raised for reclamation purposes amounting to Rs. 60·50 lakhs, the indebtedness of the Municipality at the end of the year was Rs. 132·88 lakhs as against Rs. 133·45 lakhs at the close of the previous year. Against this were held in the sinking fund securities of a face value of Rs. 26·49 lakhs. The loan charges for the year amounted to Rs. 9·92 lakhs, of which Rs. 57,000 were for repayments of loans, Rs. 5·90 lakhs for interest, Rs. 3·36 lakhs for the sinking fund, and Rs. 8,983 for management charges. A loan of Rs. 10¼ lakhs sanctioned in 1913 was twice advertised ; it was oversubscribed on each occasion, but the average rate of tender fell below the minimum rate of acceptance.

The Reclamation Fund opened with a credit balance of Rs. 5·48 lakhs and closed with a balance of Rs. 3·82 lakhs. The receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 5·37 lakhs and the expenditure to Rs. 7·03 lakhs. The amount actually expended on works was Rs. 2·41 lakhs. The loans raised for reclamation purposes at the end of the year stood at Rs. 60·50 lakhs, against which there were in the sinking fund securities to the face value of Rs. 8·71 lakhs.

Other Municipalities.

159. Exclusive of debt accounts amounting to Rs. 4·03 lakhs and of opening balances amounting to Rs. 18·16 lakhs, the total income of the Municipalities in the Province (omitting Rangoon) was Rs. 48·86 lakhs as against Rs. 47·15 lakhs in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 45·90 lakhs against Rs. 43·17 lakhs and the closing balance was Rs. 19·53 lakhs. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 17·62 lakhs as against Rs. 16·62 lakhs in the preceding year. Nearly half of this increase was due to the complete revision of assessments at Akyab alone. Realizations under Special Acts amounted to Rs. 45,819 as against Rs. 47,597, a strike of hackney carriage drivers at Moulmein reducing the license fees there from Rs. 7,072 to Rs. 3,881. The revenue from other sources amounted to Rs. 19·61 lakhs as against Rs. 19·73 lakhs. A large decline under this head at Henzada is explained by an abnormal increase of Rs. 65,950 in the previous year, representing the sale proceeds of sites which were subsequently refunded. An increase of Rs. 41,271 at Mandalay in market and slaughter house fees was due to the realization of Rs. 29,194 as "salaami" for the sale of the right of occupancy of bazaar stalls and to increased rent derived from the lease of bazaars. While receipts under this head decreased to some extent in Paungdè, Ngathaing-gyaung, Henzada and Wakèma owing to trade depression on account of the war, there was an increase in Pegu, Myaungmya, Mergui and Pakôkku. A large decrease of some Rs. 7,861 under this head at Bassein is due partly to a reversion to the system of retrospective collection, involving the loss of one month's fees, partly to a serious strike among the stall holders and partly to remissions made on account of the war. Grants and contributions from Government, Local Funds and other sources rose from Rs. 9·84 lakhs to Rs. 10·51 lakhs. The two recurring grants for urban sanitary improvements amounting together with the unspent balances from the previous year to Rs. 6·79 lakhs were fully allotted, and out of the three non-recurring grants for a similar purpose, allotments amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 3·38 lakhs were made to the various Municipalities and towns of the Province. In expenditure, general administration and collection charges fell from Rs. 4·39 lakhs to Rs. 3·88 lakhs. Fewer repairs on Municipal offices explain decreases of Rs. 9,342 at Syriam, of Rs. 6,401 at Prome and of Rs. 7,146 at Shwebo. A new Municipal office at Salin accounts for an increase of Rs. 4,832. At Mandalay an increase of Rs. 19,326 under this head is partly due to postponed payments of commission and partly to the payment of two large gratuities during the year. Expenditure under other heads also rose : under Public Safety it increased very slightly by Rs. 546 to Rs. 2·60 lakhs but under the main head, Public Health and Convenience, Rs. 3·19 lakhs was spent on water-works as against Rs. 63,979 in the previous year, and Rs. 83,238 on drainage as against Rs. 675. On conservancy it rose from Rs. 8·10 lakhs to Rs. 8·17 lakhs ; on hospitals and dispensaries from Rs. 7·00 lakhs to Rs. 8·78 lakhs ; on public works from Rs. 7·40 lakhs to Rs. 7·55 lakhs and on public instruction from

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Rs. 1·87 lakh to Rs. 1·94 lakh. It decreased, however, in the case of markets and slaughter houses from Rs. 5·18 lakhs to Rs. 4·36 lakhs. There were again large arrears of taxation at the end of the year, the total outstandings exceeding those of the previous year by some Rs. 16,000. On the other hand 18 Municipalities made collections of over 99 per cent. of the total demand, and at Yandoon and Tavoy the percentage of total collections on total demand was 100 per cent.

Loans were granted to three Municipalities by Government during the year: Pegu took Rs. 32,000, Toungoo Rs. 70,000 and Mergui Rs. 8,000. The total indebtedness of the Municipalities to Government at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 10·32 lakhs as against Rs. 9·89 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The liabilities on account of interest decreased from Rs. 1·29 lakh to Rs. 1·27 lakh. In addition to these loans from Government, Moulmein had loans of Rs. 10·16 lakhs outstanding with the public, and Mandalay loans of Rs. 8·03 lakhs.

Other Funds.

160. There are four educational endowment funds, namely, the Jardine, the Maung Ohn Ghine, the Renoung, and the Coplestone Funds. These funds do not bank with Government, and their accounts do not therefore appear in the Government books. The accounts of the Official Assignee are similarly excluded.

Paper Currency.

161. The average gross circulation of currency notes during 1914-15 was Rs. 494 lakhs as against Rs. 527 lakhs in the previous year. The year opened with a circulation of Rs. 647 lakhs and on the 30th April 1914 it stood at Rs. 599 lakhs. It fell to a minimum of Rs. 421 lakhs on the 27th August and rose to a maximum of Rs. 607 lakhs on the 11th March 1915. In the year 1913-14 the minimum was Rs. 407 lakhs on the 2nd December and the maximum Rs. 789 lakhs on the 5th March. On the 31st March 1915 the circulation stood at Rs. 518 lakhs. To determine the active or net circulation notes of the Rs. 10,000 denomination have been excluded from the gross circulation. The average net circulation during the year was Rs. 412 lakhs as against Rs. 472 lakhs in the previous year, or a decrease of Rs. 60 lakhs. The war dislocated finance and trade and the decline began in August 1914, the month in which war was declared. The net circulation on the 31st March 1915 was Rs. 474 lakhs as against Rs. 584 lakhs on the same date in 1914. Of this total notes of the Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 denominations supplied 93·31 per cent. as against 95·20 per cent. in the preceding year. The circulation of the Rs. 10 notes accounts for 55·58 per cent. of the total volume of currency as against 56·50 in the previous year and notes of Rs. 100 for 37·73 per cent. as against 38·70 per cent. The circulation of notes of Rs. 1,000, which had remained practically constant for several years, shows an increase from 2·65 per cent. to 4·67 per cent. Notes of the denominations of Rs. 5, Rs. 20, Rs. 50 and Rs. 500 are not in much use.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1914.
Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1914.
Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1914-15.
Report on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the triennium 1912—14.
Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1914-15.
Statistics of British India, Part V.

Births and Deaths.

Area under registration and total population.

162. No change in the registration area was effected in 1914. The figures for the population returned as under registration remained the same as in 1913, *viz.*, 5,042,279 males and 4,813,574 females, of whom 6,382,847 are in Lower Burma and 3,473,006 in Upper Burma.

Number of births and deaths.

163. In the areas under registration births exceeded deaths by 111,055, the excess of births in Lower Burma being 74,701, and in Upper Burma 36,354. The natural increase in the whole registered area amounted to 11 per mille against 8 in 1913. The number of births registered in the Province in 1914 was 348,883, of which 179,837 were males, and 169,046 were females; the excess of male births over female was the same as in 1913, *viz.*, 106 to 100. The provincial birth-rate shows a marked rise to 35·40, a figure well above the average for the previous five years, *viz.*, 33·75. The rates for Lower Burma and Upper Burma respectively were 34·70 and 36·69 as compared with 31·74 and 34·20 in 1913. All Districts except Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Amherst, Minbu and Myingyan show an increase in the birth-rate on the previous five years' mean. There were 237,828 deaths registered in the Province in 1914, giving a ratio per mille of 24·13 as compared with 26·97 the previous five years' mean, and 24·99 the ratio for 1913. The Lower Burma death-rate was 22·99 and that for Upper Burma 26·22, showing a decline from the previous five years' means (25·56 and 29·57) and from those returned in 1913 (23·58 and 27·60). All Districts except Akyab, Tavoy and Mergui show a decrease in the death-rate contrasted with the five years' mean. The provincial infantile mortality rate was 216·36, the lowest for three years. The rural infantile mortality rates for the Province, Lower Burma, and Upper Burma, respectively, were 207·97, 200·41, and 221·04, and the urban ratios for the corresponding areas were 307·61, 279·45 and 359·41. Registered infant deaths constituted 31·74 per cent. of all deaths in the Province, but this ratio would certainly be considerably increased, if all infant deaths were registered.

The Mandalay Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality continued to do good work throughout the year. Similar societies were started at Rangoon and Akyab during the year.

Causes of death.

164. The registered mortality from different causes in 1914 is compared in the following statement with the figures for 1913 :—

	1914.	1913.
Cholera	2,073	4,339
Small-pox	258	2,816
Plague	7,488	4,308
Fevers	76,127	82,958
Dysentery and diarrhœa	8,111	8,958
Respiratory diseases	7,969	7,184
Suicide	170	193
Wounding or accident	1,704	1,631
Snake bite or killed by wild beasts	1,647	1,490
Rabies	17	2
All other causes	132,264	132,450
Total ...	237,828	246,328

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The total provincial deaths from epidemic diseases show a decrease of 1,644 on the previous year's figures. In towns there was an increase of 1,162 deaths from these diseases, while in rural areas there was a decrease of 2,806 deaths. The provincial cholera death-rate was ·21 as against ·44 in 1913 and ·62, the previous five years' mean. In Upper Burma the ratio was only ·01, in Lower Burma ·32. There were only 7 deaths in towns, and 24 in rural areas of Upper Burma. In Lower Burma an increased death-rate over the previous year was registered in all the Districts of the Arakan Division and in the Amherst and Mergui Districts of the Tenasserim Division. The death-rate from small-pox was only ·03 as compared with ·29 for 1913 and ·42, the average mean for the last five years. There were no deaths from small-pox in Upper Burma towns and only 17 deaths in rural areas of Upper Burma Districts. In Lower Burma the total of deaths from small-pox was 241, of which 33 occurred in towns. The provincial plague death ratio was ·76 against ·44 for 1913 and ·60 the previous five years' mean. Out of a total of 7,488 deaths from plague 4,044 occurred in Lower Burma towns, Rangoon alone returning 1,585. Upper Burma towns returned 1,763 deaths of which 1,298 occurred at Mandalay. Rural areas returned 1,681 deaths, 553 of which were from Upper and 1,128 from Lower Burma. The Districts of the Arakan Division, and the Tavoy and Mergui Districts as in previous years returned no deaths from plague. The Pakôkku and Minbu Districts also were free from plague. The total number of rats destroyed in Burma during 1914 amounted to 481,112 of which Rangoon returned 416,640. The total of anti-plague inoculations performed during the year was 47,574; of this number Rangoon furnished 7,216 and Mandalay Town 12,765; Shwebo, Sagaing and Pyinmana Towns each averaged 3,000 operations. The total for rural areas was 9,208. As in the previous year there was little demand for anti-plague inoculation from Districts and towns, in Lower Burma. There was a diminution in the prevalence of malarial infection throughout the Province during 1914. The mortality from this cause shows a decrease especially in Districts such as Thayetmyo, and the irrigated areas of the Minbu, Shwebo and Mandalay Districts, all of which suffered severely in previous years. The two travelling dispensaries in the Minbu District did good work in the prevention of malaria by the distribution of quinine in irrigated areas, and in affording medical assistance to the sick in many villages.

Issues of quinine.

165. The total number of packets of quinine tablets sold during the year 1914 by District agencies was 55,258 as compared with 70,857 packets disposed of during the previous year. The total issue comprised 42,457 five-grain packets, and 12,801 one-grain packets. The demand for this drug was greater in Lower Burma than in Upper Burma Districts. Frequent analysis of the tablets issued from the manufactory in the Rangoon Central Jail showed that their quinine value was well maintained.

Emigration and Immigration.

166. The total aggregate numbers of immigrants and emigrants respectively returned by six ports of Burma, *viz.*, Rangoon, Akyab, Moulmein, Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui, were 268,416, and 146,285, a decrease on the figures for 1913 of 111,800 immigrants and 209,112 emigrants. No records were maintained at the Port of Bassein. The excess of immigrants over emigrants amounted to 122,131. The Port of Rangoon alone returned 216,841 immigrants and 73,242 emigrants, a decrease on the previous year of 96,198 of the former class and 198,445 of the latter.

Medical Relief.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

167. Eleven new institutions were opened and nine closed during the year 1914. At the end of the year the total number of hospitals and dispensaries was 272.

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168. The total number of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries aggregated 1,666,202 against 1,614,469 in 1913. The daily average attendance among out-door patients rose from 8,248 in 1913 to 8,523 during the year of report. The chief diseases treated in the order of prevalence were—all other diseases of the digestive system, malaria, other diseases of the skin, ulcers, all diseases of the respiratory system except pneumonia and tuberculosis of the lungs, injuries (general and local), and diseases of the eye and dyspepsia. There were 266 cases of cholera and 286 of small-pox as against 488 and 771 respectively in 1913. There were 3,745 deaths among the in-patients treated during the year. The mortality, which was 5·9 per cent. of the total treated, compares favourably with 6·21 in the previous year. The ratio percentage of total treated in the case of the Burmese community fell slightly from 53·7 in 1913 to 52·3 but including those shown under "Others" a steady increase in the attendance of the indigenous population is apparent. The decrease under "Mahomedans" was mostly noticeable in the Akyab District; it is reported to be due to the late arrival in 1914 of the Chittagonian immigrants for agricultural purposes.

The "Discrimination Scheme" under which patients in the private rooms are charged for medical attendance as well as for accommodation was introduced at the Rangoon, Mandalay and Maymyo Civil General Hospitals in September 1914. The Dental Department which was opened in the Rangoon General Hospital during the year proved a great success.

At the Civil Hospital, Akyab, 65 cases of Beri-Beri were treated against 38 in 1913. The disease is said to be steadily increasing and becoming a serious factor in the morbidity and mortality of the town.

General.

169. Medical expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 19,83,469 showing an increase of Rs. 3,21,564 over that of the previous year. This is accounted for chiefly by a sum of over Rs. 2 lakhs spent on construction of hospitals and dispensaries and partly by a general increase under all other heads of expenditure. A new hospital at Pyapôn was built at a cost of over one lakh of rupees. The cadre of the Indian Medical Service was increased by one by the appointment of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Rangoon. A new Civil Surgeoncy was created for the Putao District open to Military Assistant Surgeons. Consequently the number of uncovenanted Medical Officers and Military Assistant Surgeons in independent charge of civil stations was increased from 22 to 23. The cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons was increased from 44 to 46 and that of the Sub-Assistant Surgeons was increased by 14 which is yet short of the sanctioned number by 20. Under the 'Results-System Midwives Scheme' 6 midwives qualified and 8 others are under training. A scheme for the training annually of 5 Burmese and Karen women in sick-nursing for a period of two years at the General Hospital, Rangoon, was sanctioned by the Government. The scope of the scheme for the training of ward assistants was further extended. Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. Pearce, I.M.S., assumed charge of the Pasteur Institute, Rangoon, in the middle of the year. His services were obtained six months earlier than due with a view to securing supervision of building operations, and to procuring the necessary equipment, in order to avoid delay in commencing professional work at the institution.

The number of pupils at the Burma Government Medical School was 44, against 32 in the previous year. An increase was sanctioned in the annual admissions of stipendiary pupils from 10 to 20, to take effect from the commencement of the session of 1914. Nine passed the final qualifying examination and were given a course of practical training in midwifery at the Government Maternity Hospital, Madras, for three months.

Lunatic Asylums.

170. The number of inmates of the Rangoon and Minbu Lunatic Asylums at the end of the year increased from 562 in 1913 to 587. The daily average strength was 575·78 as against 557·41 in 1913. The mortality of the two asylums which rose from 8·10 in 1909 to 11·43 in 1911 in the previous triennium, and showed a further increase to 25·78 in 1912 fell to 16·50 in 1913 and to 6·08 in 1914. The total expenditure of both asylums amounted to Rs. 1,60,905. The

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average cost per head of average strength in Rangoon decreased from Rs. 215-14-0 in 1913 to Rs. 213-10-4 in 1914 and in Minbu from Rs. 127-13-7 in 1913 to Rs. 127-4-3. The Manufacture Department yielded a net profit of Rs. 13,889 against Rs. 10,074 in 1913.

Sanitation.

Principal works and expenditure.

171. Eleven meetings of the Divisional Sanitary Board were convened during the year 1914, to consider local sanitary schemes. Two of these were held at Mandalay, and one at each of the following places: Letpadan, Meiktila, Syriam, Tavoy, Maymyo, Insein, Toungoo, Pyinmana and Henzada. The whole of the unspent balance of Rs. 79,000 brought forward from the previous financial year 1913-14, together with the recurring Rs. six lakhs grant for 1914-15, was distributed during the financial year for the furtherance of urban sanitation. The allotments were made as follows:—

	Rs.
Arakan Division	1,20,500
Pegu Division	1,22,839
Irrawaddy Division	89,688
Tenasserim Division	1,12,487
Mandalay Division	33,442
Sagaing Division	48,096
Magwe Division	21,751
Meiktila Division	98,700
Southern Shan States	31,497

Out of the non-recurring grant of Rs. 10½ lakhs, a sum aggregating Rs. 1,88,661 was distributed among 14 towns, in support of various sanitary projects; of this amount Kalaw received Rs. 34,200, Pyapôn Rs. 39,415, Minhla Rs. 24,813, Bhamo Rs. 18,542, Bassein Rs. 17,974, Maymyo Rs. 15,332, Pakôkku Rs. 12,180, Salin Rs. 10,211, and Shwebo Rs. 10,000, the balance being distributed among the towns of Wakèma, Yenangyaung, Pyu, Kanyutkwin and Mergui. Activity in major sanitary engineering works, carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Engineer, was during 1914 most marked in connection with the provision of a protected water-supply to many of the smaller towns in Upper and Lower Burma. Public water-supply schemes were sanctioned for, commenced, or in progress at the following towns: Bassein, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn, Kyaiklat, Syriam, Pegu, Paungdè, Gyobingauk, Wakèma, Letpadan, Minhla, Nattalin, Zigôn, Insein, Toungoo, Yamèthin, Pyawbwè, Pyinmana, Bhamo, Pakôkku and Shwebo. The majority of these schemes depend upon tube wells as the source of supply, but at Kyaiklat the source is a rainfall tank, at Pegu upland water impounded in a reservoir, and at Yamèthin and Pyawbwè shallow wells. Special efforts were made by the Sanitary Department to extend the use of the aerobic filter type of latrine. Proposals for adopting improved principles for the lay-out and drainage of towns received the approval of the Local Government. Nine of the fifteen appointments created in 1913 for Assistant Health Officers for towns, held by Military Assistant Surgeons seconded for civil duty, were rendered vacant in September 1914 by the reversion of their incumbents to military duty. No substitutes have so far been available to fill the vacancies. In January 1915 three of the remaining six Assistant Health Officers reverted to military duty.

The proportions of the income accruing to Municipal, Town, and District Cess Funds expended on sanitary works during the financial year 1913-14 were respectively 39·82, 35·58 and 4·62, as compared with 41·77, 24·24 and 6·10 for 1912-13. The total expenditure of the various Municipal and Local Funds on sanitary works was Rs. 56,52,187 out of a total income of Rs. 1,91,25,924, as against an expenditure of Rs. 53·91 lakhs and an income of Rs. 177·88 lakhs in 1912-13; of this total expenditure the sum of Rs. 15,54,131 was spent on water-supply, Rs. 8,95,568 on drainage, Rs. 16,77,722 on conservancy, and Rs. 15,24,766 on other sanitary works.

Vaccination.

Establishment.

172. The number of whole-time Native Superintendents employed during the year was 48. The permanent vaccination staff was increased by two Municipal vaccinators, from 278 to 280. There was an increase of one District vaccinator in the Toungoo District and a decrease of one in the Ruby Mines District. A temporary vaccinator was employed, as in the previous year, to work during six months of the dry season in the Salween District. The Vaccination Establishment of the Northern Shan States was subjected to revision during the year, the two appointments of Native Superintendent being abolished and the number of vaccinators being increased from 8 to 10. The revised scheme will come into force from the commencement of the official year 1915-16. An additional vaccinator for the Mergui District was sanctioned from the same date.

One Native Superintendent of Vaccination, and ten vaccinators, including one temporary employee, were either dismissed or removed from the service for misconduct.

Number of operations.

173. The total number of operations performed in the Districts and towns, excluding those performed in dispensaries and jails, amounted to 469,471 against 512,801 in 1913-14, a decrease of 43,330. Primary operations totalled 404,008 or 18,596 less than in the preceding year and re-vaccinations, 65,463, a decrease of 24,734. In both classes of operation the decrease was due to general freedom from small-pox of nearly every District in the Province throughout the year.

The totals of successful primary operations and of successful re-vaccinations were 365,471 and 34,584, against 388,746 and 52,094 in 1913-14, a decrease of 23,275 and 17,510 respectively on the previous year's figures. Several Districts report an increase in successful primary operations. Toungoo heads the list with an increase of 3,042 followed by Mandalay with 1,649 and Hanthawaddy with 1,605. The Thayetmyo, Sagaing, Tharrawaddy and Prome Districts all report an increase of over 1,000 primary successes. The Southern Shan States also records an increase of 4,394 primary successes. The following Districts record a large decrease in successful primary operations: Kyaukpyu (12,651), Pegu (5,691), Pakôkku (4,935), Akyab (4,832), Sandoway (2,710) and Magwe (2,373). The Minbu, Mergui, Shwebo, and Meiktila Districts and Northern Shan States each return a decrease of over 1,000 primary successes. The provincial success-rate in primary cases was 94·93 per cent. and in re-vaccinations, 60·46 per cent. as compared with 96·59 and 65·40 in 1913-14. The protection afforded by vaccination per 1,000 of population for the Province was 33·02 as compared with 36·33 in 1913-14. The highest protection rates were claimed by the Sagaing District (57·35), Arakan Hill Tracts (51·68) and Upper Chindwin (50·19). Low protection rates were recorded for the Northern Shan States (8·62), Chin Hills (8·83), Myaungmya (17·03), and Pyapôn (18·87). The largest average number of successful operations per vaccinator is claimed by the Sagaing District Staff, *viz.*, 2,557 or over 200 successful operations per month. This is closely approached by the Tharrawaddy Staff (2,382) and the Katha Staff (2,359). District Staffs returning a low average number of successful operations per vaccinator were those of the Northern Shan States (487), Sandoway (633), Myaungmya (713), Ruby Mines (768), Pyapôn (806) and Prome (868). In the 57 towns in which vaccination is compulsory, the total number of successful operations performed was 44,241, against 49,436 in 1913-14, a decrease of 5,195. This decrease was wholly in re-vaccinations, primary operations showing a slight increase of 274. The towns of Pyinmana, Syriam, Thôngwa, Mandalay, Toungoo, Magwe, Yenangyaung, Insein, Myingyan and Ngathainggyaung show substantial increases. On the other hand many towns, more particularly Myaungmya, Wakèma and Nyaunglebin, show decreases. In the aggregate of towns for which returns were received there were 20,108 surviving infants available for vaccination, and 20,136 infants were successfully vaccinated. The excess over the number of available survivors is said to be due to defective registration of births and, in the case of some towns, to immigration of infants born outside the town limits. Rangoon, Mandalay and

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Bassein towns show an excess of 541, 671 and 193 operations respectively over survivors of registered births. Fifteen other towns also show an excess. But Myaungmya returned only 17 successful operations on infants out of a total of 86 survivors, Thôngwa 80 out of a possible 181, Syriam 104 out of 201, and Wakèma 59 out of 151. Ten other towns returned a large balance of unvaccinated infants. The total number of infants under one year primarily vaccinated in the Province was 107,812 and that of children between the ages of one and under six years, 184,170 as compared with 101,667 and 196,417 respectively in 1913-14.

Out of a total of 404,258 primary operations performed, Civil Surgeons verified 69,630 or 17·22 per cent. and Native Superintendents 221,030 or 54·68 per cent.; the corresponding figures for 1913-14 were 62,177 or 14·61 per cent. and 224,163 or 52·68 per cent. respectively. The percentage of cases found successful on the total number inspected by Civil Surgeons was 92·98, and on that by Native Superintendents 93·52.

One thousand seven hundred and sixteen primary operations and 1,380 re-vaccinations were performed in dispensaries as compared with 3,573 primary and 2,094 re-vaccinations during 1913-14, there being a decrease of 1,857 primary and 714 re-vaccination operations. The rarity of small-pox outbreaks in 1914-15 (there were only 241 deaths from this cause in Lower Burma and 17 in Upper Burma), is sufficient to account for the small outturn of Dispensary Vaccination during the year. The percentage of success attained was 92·98 in primary and 64·40 in re-vaccinations against 92·26 and 61·20 respectively in 1913-14. The vaccination work in jails in the Province was well maintained during the year of report. In an average population of 18,853 prisoners there were 26,475 operations with 17,765 successful results. Medical practitioners, private vaccinators and missionaries returned 6,879 primary cases and 926 re-vaccinations successfully performed.

General.

174. The total cost of the Department was Rs. 2,06,269 against Rs. 2,04,873 in the previous year, an increase of Rs. 1,396. The expenditure under the head "Pay of establishment" shows an increase of Rs. 6,632 over that of the previous year. Conversely under the heads "Travelling Allowance" and "Contingencies" there was a reduction of Rs. 303 and Rs. 4,933 respectively. The average cost for each successful operation for the Province was Re. 0-8-5 against Re. 0-7-6 in 1913-14. The cost varied in different Districts from Re. 0-3-8 in Katha to Re. 1-9-2 in the Chin Hills. The Tharrawaddy, Myingyan and Sagaing Districts each show a cost of less than 5 annas per successful operation, while in the Bassein, Magwe, Lower Chindwin, Ma-ubin, Toungoo and Minbu Districts the cost lies between 5 and 6 annas. An exceptionally high average cost was returned by the Chin Hills (Re. 1-9-2), Ruby Mines (Re. 1-8-7) and Northern Shan States (Re. 1-0-5).

Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila.

175. The quantity of vaccine lymph obtained from calves was 269·4 ounces against 267·4 in the previous year. The number of calves used was 282 against 361 in 1913-14 and 477 in 1912-13. The average yield from each calf exceeded that of either of the two preceding years, being 465·8 grains against 326·8 and 287·4 respectively. The number of doses of vaccine lymph issued was 730,986 which was 24,128 doses less than in the previous year. The total outturn of lymph prepared was 776,432 doses. Of 314,490 primary operations in which the results were reported, 94·97 per cent. were found successful against 96·75 per cent. in the previous year. Five Native Superintendents and 35 vaccinators were trained in the Depôt during the year. Thirty-one vaccinators qualified within the prescribed period of three months. The net expenditure was Rs. 15,024-13-7 against Rs. 16,357-6-2 in the previous year. There was a saving of Rs. 701 on the purchase of calves and an increase in salaries, due to the addition of a mechanic and a fireman to the subordinate staff. The new laboratory building commenced in 1914 was completed and is in use. The old building has been converted for use as a lecture-room. The accommodation for calves under operation has been increased from 7 to 15 stalls.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES:—

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1914-15.
Statistics of British India, Parts VI and VII.

General System of Public Instruction.

See paragraphs 253 to 280 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma for the year* 1911-12.

Education.

Educational measures.

176. The cadre of the Indian Educational Service in the province was increased during the year by the creation of two principalships for the Government High Schools at Akyab and Bassein, of three additional professorships in the Government College and of two additional inspectorships. Four of these appointments were filled, and the number of officials in this service thus rose from 16 to 20. There was no change in the numbers of the Provincial Educational Service, which remained at 72, but the cadre of the Subordinate Educational Service was increased by 28 to 689.

The question of the foundation of a university for the province was still under consideration during the year, and the site now occupied by the Rangoon Lunatic Asylum, which had been proposed for it, was definitely abandoned as unsuitable. The survey of unregistered vernacular schools in certain Districts undertaken by six deputy inspectors of schools in the previous year was completed, and resulted in over 1,000 schools being brought on to the register. Certain modifications of curriculum and rules to meet the needs of monastic schools were suggested and are being considered. Four additional posts of Sub-Inspectors of School Gardens were created and the incumbents of the appointments were sent to the Peradeniya gardens in Ceylon where they received a training for six months in school gardening. Steps were taken to make female education more practical, and the teaching of domestic economy and cookery was approved; but difficulties arose, and the introduction of cookery had to be deferred. A scheme of instruction in temperance was arranged for European and Anglo-vernacular schools. Further experiments were made with the maintenance grant system but a final decision whether it should displace the results-grant system was not yet arrived at. A system of special lectures on methods of teaching for teachers already in service and who may wish to appear for the Teachership examination was initiated. An audit by the Accountant-General's department of the accounts of all European schools and of all hostels attached to Government schools was introduced.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

177. The number of schools of all kinds was 25,766, with an attendance of 550,500 pupils, of whom 112,802 were females, as against 24,283 schools with an attendance of 504,928 pupils, of whom 101,639 were females in 1913-14. Institutions and attendance thus increased by 6·1 per cent. and 9·03 per cent. In the previous year the increase was 2·9 per cent. and 9·9 per cent. respectively. The percentage of male scholars to the male population of school-going age was 47·19, and of female scholars to the female population 12·66, as against percentages of 43·48 and 11·42 in the previous year. Of the total number of schools 8,347 were public with an attendance of 361,154 pupils, and 17,419 were private with 189,346 pupils. The total expenditure on education during the year was Rs. 69·35 lakhs as against Rs. 61·55 lakhs in 1913-14, and thus shows an increase of nearly Rs. 8 lakhs. Funds were provided from the following sources: Rs. 29·71 lakhs

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

(including Imperial grants to an amount of Rs. 11·99 lakhs) from Provincial Funds, Rs. 6·92 lakhs from Local Funds, Rs. 4·67 lakhs from Municipal Funds, Rs. 19·80 lakhs from School Fees and Rs. 8·26 lakhs from Subscriptions and Endowments (Private Sources). The contributions under each of these heads increased, the largest increase being one of Rs. 3·9 lakhs under the head "Provincial," followed by increases of Rs. 1·3 lakh and Rs. 1·2 lakh under "Fees" and "District Cess Funds" respectively. Of the contribution of Rs. 11·99 lakhs from Imperial Funds, a sum of Rs. 3·64 lakhs was spent by the Public Works department in the construction of Government buildings, while the Education department spent nearly Rs. 3 lakhs on building and equipment grants to aided schools, and the balance, about Rs. 5½ lakhs, chiefly on elementary education. Considerably more than half of the department's expenditure is direct, direct expenditure during the year amounting to Rs. 43·32 lakhs, and indirect expenditure to Rs. 26·02 lakhs, as against Rs. 40·05 lakhs and Rs. 21·49 lakhs in the previous year. In direct expenditure the heaviest item is under "Secondary Schools," standing at Rs. 27 lakhs. Under indirect expenditure "Buildings" account for Rs. 9½ lakhs. The average expenditure per head of population rose from Re. 0-8-2 to Re. 0-9-1. The average cost of education per pupil fell in Arts Colleges from Rs. 378·2 to Rs. 332·3, and in Secondary Schools from Rs. 24·1 to Rs. 23·03, but rose in Upper Primary Schools from Rs. 5-9-8 to Rs. 6-1-11. All classes of pupils taken together the average cost of education per pupil was Rs. 12 as against Rs. 12·3 in 1913-14.

Primary education.

178. The term "Primary School" includes all European, Anglo-vernacular, and vernacular schools teaching up to the fourth standard. It also includes for certain purposes the primary department (standards I to IV) of secondary schools. Public primary schools increased from 5,645 to 6,769, both boys' and girls' schools increasing. The attendance in public primary schools rose from 213,746 to 239,194. The increase in primary institutions is partly due to registrations following on the survey already mentioned of unregistered vernacular schools undertaken by deputy inspectors of schools. The largest increase took place in the Meiktila Circle. It is feared, however, that these particular gains will prove somewhat ephemeral, especially if funds are not available to secure frequent visitation and payment of grants. The expenditure on primary schools for boys was Rs. 23·89 lakhs as compared with Rs. 21·50 lakhs in 1913-14. This expenditure which includes the cost of primary departments of secondary schools was met as follows:—From Provincial Funds Rs. 5,87,848, District Cess Funds Rs. 5,91,562, Municipal Funds Rs. 2,56,079, Fees and other Sources Rs. 9,53,418. The total cost of primary education for boys and girls was approximately Rs. 27·9 lakhs. In 1913-14 it was Rs. 24·8 lakhs.

Secondary education.

179. Secondary schools are those in which there are standards higher than the fourth. This paragraph deals with Anglo-vernacular and vernacular secondary schools for boys, and the figures include pupils in primary departments attached to middle or high schools. European secondary schools are dealt with in paragraph 181. The number of Anglo-vernacular secondary schools for boys rose from 116 to 119 and the attendance from 25,251 to 25,920. Of the pupils attending these schools 7·09 per cent. were in the High stage, 35·3 in the Middle, 36·5 in the Upper Primary, and 21·1 in the Lower Primary stages. The number of vernacular secondary schools for boys rose by 96 from 861 to 957 and the attendance from 67,340 to 75,904. There was an increase of four schools and 37 pupils in the Vernacular High School stage. The percentages of attendance in the various stages of vernacular schools were ·01 in the High School stage, 9·8 in the Middle, 20·6 in the Upper Primary, and 69·6 in the Lower Primary stages. The majority of pupils in secondary schools are in the primary departments of these schools. But it is preferable that the middle departments of secondary schools should get their pupils from their own primary departments rather than from isolated primary schools. The opening of primary schools which have no prospects of growing into secondary schools is not encouraged unless these schools are in touch with some middle schools to which they act as feeders. The

results of the public examinations were generally statisfactory: 166 candidates out of 364 passed the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final, 249 out of 441 the Calcutta University Matriculation, 1,161 out of 2,150 the seventh standard of the Anglo-Vernacular Examination, 9 out of 55 the ninth standard of the Vernacular Examination, and 811 out of 2,115 the seventh standard of the same Examination.

The expenditure on secondary education rose from Rs. 25·61 lakhs to Rs. 27·03 lakhs. Provincial Funds provided Rs. 8,51,633, District Cess Funds Rs. 2,14,115, Municipal Funds Rs. 3,28,833, Fees Rs. 11,14,603 and Private Sources Rs. 1,93,829.

Collegiate education.

180. The increase in the number of College students was 121, as compared with 109 in 1913-14. The average number monthly on the rolls in the Government College rose from 411 to 521 and in the Baptist College from 62 to 67. The attendance in the law class at the Government College was 10 against 14 in last year. Most of the students at the College are Burmans, but there was a further increase in the number of Mahomedans from 23 to 32. The percentages of success in the University Examinations at the two Colleges were as follows: 66·7 in the B.A. Examination, 33·3 in the B.Sc., 60·2 in the I.A., and 61·9 in the I.Sc.

During 1914-15 there were 13 students from Burma at the Medical College, Calcutta; 30 at the Royapuram Medical School, Madras; 61 at the Government Medical School, Rangoon, and three at the Engineering College, Sibpur.

The expenditure on collegiate education rose from Rs. 1·79 lakh to Rs. 1·95 lakh. It was met as follows:—From Provincial Funds Rs. 1,06,507, Fees Rs. 52,663 and Private Sources Rs. 36,196.

Technical education.

181. The number of technical schools was eight with an attendance of 606 pupils as against ten schools and 566 pupils in the previous year. The decrease is due to the closing of the Modern Central Commercial School at Rangoon and St. Matthew's Girls' Technical Institute, Moulmein.

The attendance at the Government School of Engineering, Insein, rose from 42 in 1913-14 to 51. Considerable changes have been made in this institution and it is now making good progress. To the original engineering classes have been added the Insein Survey School, the Railway Telegraph Class and a Workshop Apprentice Class. Burmans are taking more interest in the school and now constitute the majority in the engineering classes. By an arrangement made with the Public Works department the third year engineering students now get a practical professional training by being placed on duty at works that are being carried out by the Public Works department.

Attention has been paid to weaving during the year. Stipends were provided by the Education department for several professional weavers attending the new Government Weaving School at Amarapura in the Mandalay District, where the use of modern machines is taught. Four local school teachers were also sent there for training, Government providing the looms for them. These looms were made in the Government school and are now in use in vernacular schools where weaving is being taught on the new method.

Training schools.

182. As in 1913-14 there were 12 Normal schools, 8 for men and 4 for women, but the total number of Normal students including students in elementary training classes rose from 716 in 1913-14 to 897. Of that number 225 divided into 160 boys and 59 girls were students in elementary training classes, the numbers of which increased by 98.

The number of certificated or trained teachers in the province again increased; for though Anglo-vernacular teachers fell from 1,032 to 1,016, European teachers rose from 164 to 175 and vernacular teachers from 2,066 to 2,329.

The revision of the regulations and courses for Normal schools which had for some time been under the consideration of a special committee was completed. The proposed regulation and courses were sanctioned and the new rules will take effect from the 1st June 1915.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

The expenditure on Normal schools fell from Rs. 1,84,152 to Rs. 1,83,592. Provincial Funds provided Rs. 1,68,142, and the balance came from "Fees" and "Private Sources."

European Schools.

183. The number of European schools fell from 32 to 31, owing to the closing of St. Matthew's Girls' Technical School, Moulmein, but the attendance rose from 4,642 to 4,836. These figures include 632 non-European pupils. The actual number of Europeans and Anglo-Indians in all institutions was 4,651 as against 4,487 in 1913-14. St. Paul's School, Rangoon, with an attendance of 593 and St. John's Convent, Rangoon, with 370 pupils are still the largest schools for European boys and girls respectively. There is only one Government European school in Burma. It is at Maymyo, and had 188 pupils attending as compared with 193 during the former year. During the year one candidate passed the M.A. Examination, one the B.A. and one the B.Sc.; 14 candidates were successful at the I.A. Examination, 2 at the I.Sc., 5 at the Matriculation, 32, of whom 14 were boys and 18 were girls, at the European High School and 3 boys at the Anglo-vernacular High School Final.

The total expenditure on European education rose from Rs. 5·37 lakhs to Rs. 9·08 lakhs. The large increase is chiefly due to expenditure on buildings and equipment. Of this amount Provincial Funds provided Rs. 4,75,169 as against Rs. 2,13,796 in the previous year, and the remainder came from Municipal Funds, Fees and other Sources.

Education of Mahomedans and special classes.

184. There were 147 public and 262 private schools for Mahomedans as against 119 and 262 respectively in the previous year. The number of Mahomedan pupils increased in both public and private schools. In public schools the number rose from 11,584 to 13,385 and in private from 7,131 to 7,425. The number of Mahomedan girls rose from 2,288 to 2,823 in public schools and from 1,682 to 1,721 in private institutions.

Three Mahomedans passed the B.A. examination, two the I.A., twenty-two the Matriculation, and thirteen the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final. The proposals made by the committee of Mahomedan gentlemen appointed by Government to consider the improvement and expansion of Mahomedan education were considered during the year, and certain recommendations formulated on them by the authorities of the Education department were accepted by Government.

The number of public schools for special classes rose from 1,320 to 1,458 and the attendance from 47,593 pupils to 52,758. Private schools for special classes numbered 1,144 with an attendance of 15,092 pupils as compared with 875 and 10,524 in 1913-14. The main increase in the public schools belongs to vernacular schools. In this class the Shans, Danus and Chins show satisfactory increases in both institutions and pupils. The Talaing schools show a remarkable increase from 57 schools with an attendance of 2,416 pupils to 82 with an attendance of 4,230 pupils, and this is attributed to an improvement in the Yè Township of the Amherst District, which had hitherto remained backward. Karen schools also advanced, but not to such a marked extent; these schools however make up over two-thirds of the public institutions for special classes and nearly two-thirds of the attendance. Kachins, Tamils and Telugus show decreases. The Government school for the sons of Shan Chiefs at Taunggyi had 78 pupils at the end of the year Other Government schools are maintained for Chins at Falam, Tiddim and Mindat, for Kachins at Sinlumkaba and for Shans at Lashio and Hsipaw.

Female education.

185. The number of girls in public schools rose from 97,050 in 1913-14 to 108,531 and in private fell from 4,589 to 4,271. On these figures the percentage of females of school-going age under instruction is 12·66. This represents a marked increased since 1912 when the percentage was just under 9. The increase is distributed over all circles but is most noteworthy in the Arakan, Meiktila and Irrawaddy Divisions. Of the girls in public schools 85·4 per cent.

belong to the Buddhist community, 6·2 per cent. are native Christians, 1·7 per cent. are Mahomedans and 5·9 per cent. are Europeans and Anglo-Indians. Almost all however are in the Lower Primary stage of instruction, 9 only attending a College, 217 a High Department of a secondary school, and 2,123 a Middle stage. Of the remainder 10,824 were in the Upper Primary stage and 94,898 in the Lower Primary stage, while 460 are in special schools. The number of public girls' schools was 868 as against 706 in the previous year. Of these five secondary and one primary are Government vernacular schools. The percentage of girls attending boys' schools to the total number of girls attending school was 75·05 as against 76·6. In examination girls (as usual) did well. One passed the M.A. examination, 13 the I.A., 7 the Matriculation, 3 the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final, and 20 the European High School. The total expenditure on female education rose from Rs. 5·34 lakhs to Rs. 5·44 lakhs.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

186. The number of boys in the Reformatory School, Insein, at the end of the year was 106 as against 101 at the close of the previous year. The average cost of maintenance per head was Rs. 15, an increase of Re. 1. The boys' work and conduct are reported to have improved. Owing to the heavy expenditure that a transfer of the school will entail the shifting of the school from Insein to Thazi, decided on in the previous year, has not yet been carried out. Proposals were made during the year with a view to bringing the school more directly under the control of the Education department and thus giving effect to the orders of the Government of India issued in 1899.

Reformatory School, Insein.

Literature and the Press.

187. The number of publications registered during the year declined from 362 in the previous year to 302. Of these 163 were written in Burmese, 37 in English and 19 in Pâli. The province is polyglot but the remaining languages only claim a few publications apiece. The decline, which may be attributed to the effects of the war on the book-trade, occurred in religious publications, as in other publications losses are counterbalanced by gains. But books on religion and kindred subjects with a total of 133 as against a total of 195 in the previous year still form the bulk of the annual literary output. The great majority of them are of the usual type of Burmese devotional works, and include stories of the birth of the Buddha, moral handbooks inculcating respect for parents or denouncing the crime of beef-eating and suchlike heresies, and similar productions. No publications appear under the headings of Arts, Biography, Politics, and Voyages and Travels, but two books classified as "Miscellaneous" and bearing the titles of "The History of the Russo-Japanese War" in Burmese, and "The Life of Aung Bala," a famous Burmese actor, suggest that this is perhaps due to faulty classification. Works classified as "Miscellaneous" declined, but a few books in this class such as "Japan" an illustrated description of the country, its people, manners and customs, by Maung Hla Pe, testify to the wider interest the Burmese are taking in foreign countries. Fiction occupies much the same position as in the previous year, and the 12 novels published are mere love stories. On the other hand the Drama has been dealt a heavy blow by the confiscation of books condemned as obscene, and dramatic works have fallen from 46 and 37 in 1911 and 1912 to 5 and 3 in 1913 and 1914. Books on language increased to 38, but the new Burmese Readers published by the Education department are included in the number. The output of Pâli grammars continues unchecked; five appeared during the year together with two dictionaries. English books were few in number and generally unimportant.

Publications registered.

188. Excluding the three Government presses, there were 168 presses in the Province at the end of the year as against 160 in the previous year. In Rangoon the number rose from 62 to 64, and in Mandalay from 29 to 30. The only other Districts with more than an insignificant number are the Tharrawaddy, Amherst, and Prome Districts with 16, 14 and 10 presses respectively. Six presses were dealt with during the year under the Indian Press Act; 7 were closed for failing

Presses, newspapers and periodicals.

CHAP. VII.—INSTRUCTION.

to give security and 2 were suspended. Newspapers numbered 58 as against 55 and periodicals excluding Government publications numbered the same as in the previous year, *viz.* 28. Of the daily newspapers 3 were in English, 3 in Burmese, 1 in English and Burmese, 1 in Chinese and 1 in Tamil. Of the total number of newspapers, daily and other, 23 were in English, 18 in Burmese, 5 in English and Burmese, and 5 in Sgaw-Karen, the remaining figures being insignificant. Of the periodicals other than those published at Government presses 3 were in Karen, 1 in English and Burmese, 10 in Burmese and 14 in English.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 294 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

189. No new societies were formed during the year and existing societies present no new points of interest. The membership of the Literary Society remained unchanged at 140. Visitors to the library and reading room of the Rangoon Teachers' Association increased by close on 3,000 to 7,955, and the library now consists of 4,160 volumes. The Bernard Free Library was visited by 7,650 persons; it contains 10,077 books and 4,848 manuscripts. The library of the Kinwun Mingyi was removed from it during the year and lodged in the Local Government's Offices in Rangoon.

Arts and Sciences.

Rangoon societies.

190. The Burman art industries not only suffered during the year from the usual competition with cheap modern goods, but also failed to obtain the normal amount of support owing to the financial stress caused by the war. Even in normal times however the industries are in need of development. The work turned out is often of a high class, but in spite of this the industries make little progress and the workers are generally poor. Competition with cheap modern goods might ensure progress, were the industries better organized. Co-operative action would help development and several of the industries might receive attention. But in addition to co-operative action some improvement is necessary in the methods of production. The Amarapura Silk Weaving School has shewn what can be done by combined co-operation and instruction. The art industries which would seem to be ready for early treatment on these lines are pottery, ornamental iron work, and wood-carving, especially furniture making.

The chief event of the year was the Annual Art Exhibition, held in February 1915. There was a slight falling off in the wood-carving competitions, but in wood sculpture the exhibits were very numerous. The winning silverware was of a very high quality, and the same may be said of the ivory carving. Bronze statuettes have improved both in quality and quantity, and the number exhibited was the largest on record. Some of the exhibits showed great improvement in the degree of skill attained.

A regular system of art scholarships was inaugurated during the year, four scholarships each of Rs. 10 per month for four years being offered. When the system is in full swing, there will be 16 scholars working. Of the scholarships available for the year one was given to a bronze statuette worker and one to a silver worker. The selection was by competition, and the successful competitors were placed under master craftsmen to learn their work. The other two scholarships were given to scholars from Mindan village in the Pyawbwè Township of the Yamèthin District, the home of the silver inlaid work and other art metal works. The scholars were brought down to the Government Engineering School at Insein for a few months to learn new methods in the handling of metals, and were then sent back to Mindan to complete their training under master craftsmen. These scholars are reported to have made good progress. The Rangoon Municipality gave a grant for the encouragement of art industries and other municipalities paid the expenses of workers who were sent in from out-stations to see the Annual Art Exhibition. No local art exhibitions were held during the year.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE:

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1914-15.

191. The most important event of the year was the creation of the post of Assistant Archæological Superintendent for Epigraphy. Archæological research and the elucidation of historical and philological problems may now be expected to advance with greater strides. Fair progress was made in the programme for the year except in the last two items, which had to be left untouched for want of time. Terra-cotta plaques illustrating practically all the 550 *jatakas* of which illustrations were lacking, owing to loss or serious damage of plaques, at the two Petleik pagodas, have been found at other pagodas in Pagan. But little remains to complete the monograph on this subject. The compilation of the second part of the monograph on the Ananda temple is well begun, in spite of the difficulties of the archaic form of Talaing appearing in the inscriptions. The materials for the History of Architecture at Pagan are being collected, and photographs and drawings of buildings have been prepared. Excavation and examination of inscriptions were continued at the Shwegugyi and Ajapāla pagodas at Yathemyo near Pegu, and commenced in the neighbourhood of old Prome. At the latter place some interesting discoveries were made which may eventually lead to the acquisition of information of value. The transliteration and translation of the first volume of "Inscriptions collected in Upper Burma, 1900," has been commenced, and the Superintendent has under consideration the question of publishing a selection of epigraphs locally from time to time, under the designation of *Epigraphia Birmanica* after the style of the *Epigraphia Carnatica* which has been published in Madras. The rough translation and annotation of an appreciable number of the "Original inscriptions collected by King Bodawpaya, Upper Burma, and now placed near the Patodawgyi pagoda, Amarapura," has been completed. A revision of the report on the recent investigation of the site of old Pegu by Mr. J. A. Stewart, I.C.S., has been found to be necessary in the light of further knowledge, and will be undertaken in the near future.

The most valuable discoveries of the year from an historical point of view were the terra-cotta tablets found at the Maungdi pagoda, and the stone inscription found near Pakôkku. Two fragments of the former bear inscriptions which not only fix the date of the Maungdi pagoda but also form additional evidence of the expedition of King Anoratha against the Indian settlements in the Delta. The latter gives the date of the Chinese expedition to Myinzain, and confirms the Rājāvaṅ-Gyi, which differs by two years from the Hman-nan-Rājāvaṅ regarding this date (1302 A.D.). In consultation with Commissioners of Divisions lists of monuments which have not yet been declared 'protected monuments' under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, but are worthy of protection have been prepared. Some of these were notified during the year of report and others have been notified since the close of the year. The cost of the Archæological Survey during the year was Rs. 25,197, and the expenditure on archæological works amounted to Rs. 33,033 towards which the Government of India made a grant of Rs. 5,000.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES :—

Report of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma for the year 1914.

Statistics of British India, Part VI.

Report on the working of the Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, for the year ending the 31st March 1915.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 297 to 300 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Ecclesiastical.

192. During the year the Memorial Church at Maymyo was consecrated in the presence of the Lieutenant-Governor.

Two new chaplaincies were sanctioned under the Additional Clergy Society, one for Tavoy and Mergui, the other for the oil fields. Owing to the outbreak of the war it has been impossible to fill the posts thus created.

Stationery.

193. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, Calcutta, from the Indian Mills. The cost of stationery supplied to General Departments and Presses in Burma during the year amounted to Rs. 74,544 and Rs. 2,22,302 respectively, shewing a decrease of Rs. 1,555 under General Departments and an increase of Rs. 17,358 under Government Presses as compared with the previous year.

Office of the Chemical Examiner and Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma.

194. One thousand eight hundred and ninety-three examinations were carried out against 1,783 in 1913 in the Medico-Legal Department. There was an increase of 70 cases of human poisoning. The number of blood and seminal stain cases increased from 669 in 1913 to 698 and the articles examined from 985 to 1,184. In stain cases the percentage of detection was 71·78 as against 69·51 in the previous year. In the General Analytical Department 30,671 articles were examined as against 46,629 in 1913. This decrease is accounted for by a fall of 17,194 in the number of samples of cocaine and morphia sent in for examination by the Excise Department. Practically all the cocaine and morphia which find their way into Burma are manufactured in Germany, and the war by preventing supplies from being sent from Germany, is presumably responsible for the smaller number of seizures of these drugs. In the Bacteriological Department 1,524 articles were examined—an increase of 360 examinations over those in 1913—mainly accounted for by the large number of blood smears examined for Wasserman's reaction. Forty samples of water and ærated waters were examined and germs were detected in 35.

Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing.

195. The Government Presses in the Province are three in number, *viz.*, the Central Press in Rangoon, the Jail Branch Press also in Rangoon, and the Maymyo Branch Press. The work which is carried out at these Presses is chiefly printing for Government Departments and has been noticed in Chapter VII, *supra*, in the section entitled "Literature and the Press." The receipts amounted to Rs. 47,333 in the year of report against Rs. 53,151 in the previous year and the expenditure to Rs. 4,08,314 against Rs. 3,85,387. Printing work to the value of Rs. 2,591 was given out to private presses during the year. The value of outturn of work from the Central Press was Rs. 3,26,583, from the Jail Branch Press Rs. 91,562 and from the Maymyo Branch Press Rs. 15,374, in all Rs. 4,33,519. The corresponding total for 1913-14 was Rs. 4,33,334. The value of Dead Stock at the three Presses exclusive of lands and buildings is estimated at Rs. 6,52,272 against Rs. 6,69,262 in the previous year. The total sales, excluding Gazettes, at the Government Book Depôt and by the authorized agents amounted to Rs. 15,080, while the additions to stock were valued at Rs. 83,873. Acts and publications to the value of Rs. 43,580 were supplied gratis.

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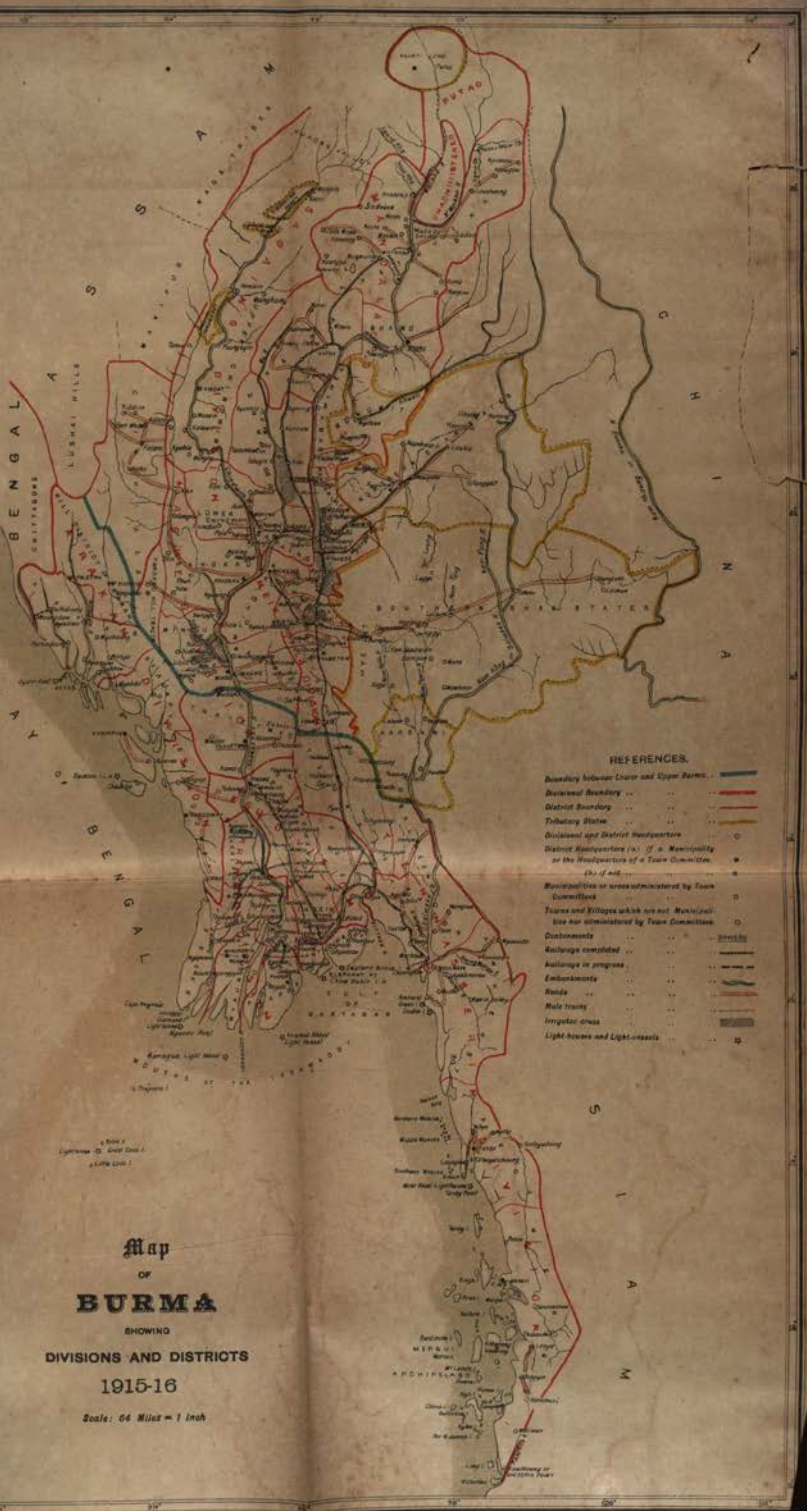

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* For the sale of official publications excluding those of the Legislative Department of the Government of Burma.

[The maximum length of the Summary is from 20 to 30 pages, and of Part II (excluding the red-letter chapters) 150 pages.]

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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION OF BURMA

FOR THE YEAR 1915-16.

PART I.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

(1) The Administration; the Frontier States; and the People.

Administration.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., Kt., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma from the beginning of the year till 28th October 1915 when he was succeeded by the Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., who held the appointment during the remainder of the year. Administrative and territorial changes during the year were few and of slight importance.

The Shan States and Karenni.

2. The Shan States enjoyed a year of peace and prosperity, and on the whole were little affected by the war. Across the northern frontier disturbances among the tribesmen resulted from events in China, but did not affect British territory save at one point, where a party of armed traders entered Kokang in search of opium. The disturbances in French territory on the Mekong did not extend across the border, and on the Siamese frontier peace remained unbroken and relations between British and Siamese officials were as usual cordial. Success attended the annual meeting of British and Chinese officials at Nawngma and many outstanding frontier cases were adjusted. The only disturbance within the Shan States was a local rising against the Chief of Möng Hsu, which was suppressed without difficulty or bloodshed. The *Sawbwas* of North Hsenwi and Manglun died during the year. The *Sawbwa* of Manglun was succeeded by his son Sao Som. In North Hsenwi a board of officials was placed in charge of the administration pending the final settlement of the succession. The administration by the Chiefs in the Shan States of their respective charges was on the whole satisfactory and in many instances creditable. During a second year of war they maintained peace and order and continued to carry out public works for the benefit of their States. Their desire to assist the Empire was sustained and they subscribed liberally to various funds connected with the war. In order to prevent the entry of emissaries of hostile and seditious organizations beyond the frontier they established and maintain, in many cases at considerable expense, a system of watch and ward on all important roads and ferries; and their action was of the greatest value to the

Province. Their loyal attitude is reflected in that of the people who shewed no unrest or uneasiness on account of the war. The rice crop was nearly everywhere above the average. Potatoes were also a good crop, and the curtailment of the supplies from India to Burma raised prices to a very profitable level. Despite considerable losses from cattle disease the year was a good one for the cultivator. In the Northern Shan States the volume of trade increased owing to the rapid and successful development of their valuable property at Namtu by the Burma Mines Company, Limited, but elsewhere fell off considerably on account of the collapse of the cattle market in Burma and the decreased import of textiles. The continued stagnation of the timber trade resulted in heavy losses to timber traders everywhere, but in Karenni, where the extraction of timber is the chief industry, had the most serious effects and sensibly diminished the wealth of the community. More than half of the total trade of the Southern Shan States was carried by the recently opened railway. There was some increase in crime generally and in violent crimes but organised crime was infrequent. There was a recrudescence of elephant theft along the Siamese border. Cattle theft shewed a decrease especially in the Northern Shan States and in the Myelat. The work of the Government, State, and village police was favourably reported on except in Karenni where the detection of cattle theft left much to be desired. The expenditure on public works paid for from State funds supplemented by remissions of tribute increased in the Southern Shan States, but decreased largely in the Northern Shan States owing to the inability of the Public Works Department to supply the necessary supervising establishment. The educational system in the Shan States was under consideration and measures were adopted in order to increase the supply of elementary teachers.

The Chin Hills.

3. In the Chin Hills proper and the Pakôkku Hill Tracts the year was uneventful and prosperous, crime was almost non-existent, crops were good, and tribute was collected in full and without difficulty. There were no raids from unadministered territory into the Chin Hills proper and the offenders in the single raid into the Pakôkku Hill Tracts were promptly punished and the captives recovered. Four minor raids into the Hill District of Arakan were promptly and effectively dealt with and had no political significance. From the unadministered territory lying between the Chin Hills and Arakan information was received of two raids, one a blood-thirsty affair in which eleven persons were killed or sacrificed, apparently as an incident in the course of a blood-feud between two villages. The proposal to place under administrative control the Somra tract on the border of the Upper Chindwin District remained in abeyance but peace was well preserved and the principal Chief of the tract was disposed to be friendly.

The North-Eastern Frontier.

4. As a sequel to the complete suppression and condign punishment of the attempts at insurrection in the Myitkyina and Putao Districts the peace of the North-Eastern Frontier remained undisturbed. More of the leaders including one persistent irreconcilable who had been a centre of unrest for years were arrested and the last embers of revolt were so thoroughly stamped out that it was found possible to allow one Chief who had been deported for complicity in it to return to his village. Road-making operations by the Public Works Department were at a standstill but a considerable amount was accomplished under the supervision of

the civil officers. In other respects, in the newly administered country, headmen were appointed, boundaries fixed, communications improved, guns registered and tribute collected. Information was recorded concerning the forest and mineral resources. Relations with the authorities in Yünnan were satisfactory and events in China did not hinder the transaction of business with the Chinese officials concerned with the border; the annual meetings were in fact more than usually successful. The conduct of the trans-border tribes was unobjectionable and some of their Chiefs displayed a friendly disposition by paying visits to British officers in administered territory. Violent crimes were more frequent in the frontier districts than in the previous year, but ordinary crime was below normal in Myitkyina and Putao. Some success was achieved in the suppression of poppy cultivation in Bhamo. Survey work in the frontier tracts made good progress and valuable assistance was rendered in various ways to civil officers by the survey staff.

Condition of the people.

5. In Lower Burma the rains were on the whole favourable, damage from flood not greater than usual, and, what is of most importance, the harvest price of the principal staple, unhusked rice, considerably higher than in the previous year. The rains in Upper Burma were patchy and in certain districts crops were poor. Nowhere however was there any approach to scarcity. Public health was not so good as in the previous year. Cholera and small-pox were both present in epidemic form and the death-rate was comparatively high.

(2) The Administration of the Land.

Realisation of the land revenue.

6. The increase of two and four-fifths lakhs of rupees in the total of the land revenue demand was due entirely to the introduction of revised rates of assessment following settlement in two districts. The season in Lower Burma was not much more favourable than its predecessor and extensive damage to crops by floods exercised a depressing influence on the revenue. In Upper Burma the failure of the middle and late rains necessitated a general reduction of assessments throughout the dry zone districts of the Meiktila Division, while an unusually high rise of the Irrawaddy in August caused widespread damage to crops throughout the riverine areas. The aggregate amount of revenue remitted fell by over two and three-quarter lakhs to five lakhs, but these figures do not give the full measure of the revenue lost as crop failures in Upper Burma were met, not by remission, but by non-assessment or assessment at reduced rates, of land revenue. The difficulties in the way of the collection of land revenue caused by the direct and indirect results of the war, though still in existence, were not so severely felt as in the previous year and the total collections improved by nearly five and three quarter lakhs of rupees. There was an increase in the number of coercive processes issued.

Surveys.

7. Surveys by Imperial Agency were carried out in the Katha, Myitkyina, Tavoy and Mergui Districts. The survey and demarcation of over 1,500 square miles of mountainous forest-covered country in the Tavoy District, rendered necessary by the development of wolfram mining, were brought to a successful completion. In the case of a similar area in Thatôn District the rush of applications for prospecting licenses rendered a detailed survey impossible but

blocks were demarcated with wooden posts protected by stone cairns. In Thayetmyo a newly-discovered petroliferous area was surveyed on the sixteen-inch scale and divided into blocks demarcated by reinforced concrete pillars. Re-survey and the subdivision and re-arrangement of *kwins* or survey units of unwieldy size were carried out in five districts. No re-surveys were made in any towns except Rangoon but the maps of the work of the previous year were prepared and printed.

Settlements.

8. One Settlement Party was disbanded during the year and five were at work at its close. The operations extended over nine districts. Three settlements were completed and reports submitted and in the Henzada District revised rates of assessment, based on the settlement and estimated to produce an enhancement of revenue of 29·64 per cent., were sanctioned.

Land Records.

9. The net result of a number of minor changes in the rural area under supplementary survey in a few districts was a diminution of the provincial total by 181 square miles; similar adjustments in the urban area ended in a corresponding reduction by one square mile. There was a substantial increase in the amount of revenue for the assessment of which the Land Records Department is responsible and a reduction in the proportion of the cost of the department to the revenue assessed. The number of survey schools remained unchanged but there was a slight reduction in the number of their pupils. The results of examinations were only fair. Training of apprentice surveyors and of probationary Assistant Superintendents of Land Records was carried out on the prescribed lines.

Transfers of land.

10. In the matter of transfers of land there is a sharp distinction between the two divisions of the Province. In Upper Burma land is only to a very limited extent an article of commerce and the only form of transfer at all common is the usufructuary mortgage. It is therefore from the statistics of Lower Burma alone that any useful inferences can be drawn. The leading features of the report of the previous year are reproduced, that is, a further decrease in the area sold, a very substantial increase in the area placed under non-usufructuary mortgage, an increase in the average price per acre of land sold and a decrease in the average amount advanced per acre of land mortgaged. The proportion of land under mortgage rose in the area to which the statistics relate. On the other hand there was a considerable increase in the area of land redeemed from mortgage. The statistics are not easy to interpret, but one not improbable conclusion is that the contraction of credit during the past two years has compelled the cultivator to mortgage his land as security for loans which he requires for working expenses and which he formerly obtained on note of hand.

Waste lands.

11. In accordance with the policy of recent years leases or grants of land for ordinary rice cultivation were granted only in special cases where conferment of title was advisable, and were practically confined to Kyaukpyu District and the special lease areas in Insein and Hanthawaddy Districts. Leases for rubber cultivation were issued in several districts but for no large area in any one case. Some leases were issued on a new canal distributary in Minbu and land was leased on special terms for a dairy farm in Myitkyina.

12. The extent to which the occupied area of the Province is divided between peasant proprietors and landlords, whether absentee or resident, is one of the principal points of interest in each annual revenue report. Here as in other cases only the statistics relating to Lower Burma are of much importance, as the area in the occupation of non-agriculturists in Upper Burma is very small. The figures for the year of report do not differ greatly from those of the previous year. There are seven districts in which the proportion of land in the occupation of non-agriculturists varies from 43 to 21 per cent. All of them are districts within easy reach of Rangoon and the figures simply prove that land is far and away the most popular investment with the trading and professional classes of that city. There was a considerable increase both in the number of tenants and in the number of holdings of land let to tenants. Rents are mostly paid in produce and, as the harvest prices of crops were better, the money value of the average rent per acre was higher than in the previous year. Revenue and rent-paying classes.

(3) Protection.

13. One bill was passed into law by the Provincial Legislative Council during the year. The Burma Medical Act provides for the registration of all medical practitioners in Burma and their subjection to the disciplinary control of a medical council of nine members, five elected by registered practitioners and four appointed by the Local Government. Four General Acts of 1915 and nine General Acts of 1916 affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council, and five Ordinances were made and promulgated by the Governor-General. The Arakan Hill District Laws Regulation, 1916, to declare and amend the law applicable in the Hill District of Arakan, was enacted during the year. The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, and the Indian Petroleum Act, 1899, were extended to the whole or parts of the Shan States. Legislation.

14. The sanctioned strength of the Civil Police remained practically unaltered but a feature of the year was the improvement in recruiting and consequent reduction of the difference between sanctioned and actual strength, a result for which lack of employment and poverty were chiefly responsible. An increase of over a lakh and a quarter of rupees in the cost of the force was due to the increase in the actual strength and the appointment of officers whose engagement was sanctioned in the previous year. The conduct of officers and men was good; an increase in the number of punishments was purely nominal, the result of a change in the system of record, and was balanced by an increase in the number of rewards and of special promotions for good service, and by a most satisfactory decrease in the number of offences by the police against the public. Decreases were recorded in the number of desertions, dismissals, discharges without pension or gratuity and resignations. Progress was made in the construction of new police stations and the provision of sufficient accommodation for the men, but work was impeded by financial stringency and much remains to be done. The statistics show that the volume of crime was considerably larger than in the previous year. The causes assigned are unfavourable rains and poor harvests in Upper Burma, disturbance of markets and low prices throughout the Province and a general sense of unrest due to the war. Violent crimes of all classes save culpable homicide and house- Police.

breaking increased in number. The increase in the number of dacoities was confined to Lower Burma and was largely accounted for by the operation in two districts of organised gangs which have since been broken up. Despite a very serious increase in the number of cases of theft reported, the aggregate value of the property stolen was less, the increase being thus principally in the number of petty thefts committed, under the pressure of poverty. The success of the police in dealing with crime was, measured in statistics, in no respect greatly different from that obtained in the previous year. The annual report contains the usual detailed descriptions of particular crimes, descriptions valuable as illustrations of popular mentality in the Province. The exceeding readiness to take human life for the smallest material advantage is unpleasantly prominent. More pleasing is the story of how a Karen and his wife, both aged about eighty, living in an isolated hut in the jungle, kept at bay a gang of six dacoits armed with a gun until assistance arrived and the dacoits were driven off empty-handed. The special measures, begun in the previous year, with the object of maintaining a strict control over all firearms in the Province and of removing them from the possession of all bad and doubtful characters were continued with success. The work of the finger print bureau was continued and its utility further demonstrated. Additional police forces—sanctioned in 1912 for a period of five years—continued to be employed in the Tharrawaddy and Pegu Districts. Similar forces for the Hanthawaddy and Pegu Districts were sanctioned from the end of 1914 and the beginning of 1915 and were raised and trained during the year.

The magnificent spirit displayed by the readiness of the men of the military police in 1914 to volunteer for active service was continued during the following year. In 1914 the only classes that actually left for the war were Gurkhas and Garhwalis; in 1915 twenty-one officers and twelve hundred and eighty-four rank and file of other classes, Sikhs, Punjabi-Mussalmans, Rajputs, Hindustani-Mussalmans, Jats, Dogras and Brahmans were organised in drafts of from one hundred to five hundred strong, put through a short course of training and sent off to reinforce Indian regiments on service. Nearly three thousand more were waiting in readiness to go at the close of the year. Very gratifying reports of the conduct of the volunteers were received from the officers commanding the regiments to which they were attached. The departure of so many members of the force and the closing of certain recruiting areas rendered it difficult to maintain the full sanctioned strength and necessitated some changes in the caste composition of the battalions. Natives of the Province were enlisted in greater numbers than in former years and a company of Kachins drawn from the Bhamo and Myitkyina Battalions was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 10th Gurkha Rifles stationed at Maymyo. A rising of the Kachin tribes in the Myitkyina District which began on the last day of the year 1914 was suppressed and appropriate punishment inflicted by columns of military police. The country traversed during the operations was most of it covered by dense jungle and the police columns employed displayed great spirit and tenacity in wearing down what was in many cases an obstinate resistance.

The precautions rendered necessary by the war continued to impose heavy additional duties on the Rangoon Town Police during the year. Difficulties in obtaining Indian recruits of a good stamp rather increased than otherwise. The efficiency and even to some extent the health of the force suffered from the strain

of continuous overwork. The results obtained in dealing with crime were on the whole good and the variations from the statistics of the previous year were not great.

Village Administration.

15. There were continued during the year two processes, one that of breaking up the charges of circle headmen into independent village-tracts the effect of which is to increase the number of village headmen, and the other the amalgamation of village-tracts which are too small to provide their headmen with independent status or adequate remuneration, which causes a decrease in the total number of headmen. The result was that there were slightly fewer headmen in the Province at the end of the year than at its beginning. Good progress was made in the work of demarcating the boundaries of village-tracts and supplying headmen with reliable maps of the areas under their jurisdiction. The number of headmen exercising judicial powers substantially increased. A further substantial decrease, the second in succession, took place in the total amount of fines inflicted by headmen. The revenue work of village headmen was in most cases admirably performed and a great improvement in promptness of revenue collection was reported from several districts. Relations with the police continued to be good and large sums were paid as rewards for assistance in the prevention and detection of crime and the arrest of offenders. Instances of plucky resistance by villagers against attacks by dacoits were reported. There was a slight increase in the number of headmen punished but a substantial decrease in the total amount of collective fines imposed on the inhabitants of villages. In the Sagaing Division a beginning was made with working a scheme for the maintenance and improvement of village roads by headmen with assistance from the District Funds.

Criminal Justice.

16. The decrease in the number of true offences against the provisions of the Indian Penal Code which was one of the encouraging features of the Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice for the year 1914, was unfortunately not maintained during the following year. Substantial increases in the number of this class of offences were recorded in both divisions of the Province, more especially under the head of offences against property, for which the economic conditions caused by the war are probably partially responsible. There was little variation in the number of offences against the person in Lower Burma, but in Upper Burma the number of cases of murder and of grievous hurt increased. The greater part of the increase in the number of offences reported was however contributed by the head "offences under special and local laws" and it was considered that the administration of those laws, particularly the Gambling, Village and Forest Acts, required closer supervision than it had received in the past. There was an increase in the percentage of convictions to the total number of persons tried both in Sessions Courts and before Magistrates. The average duration of cases tried by Magistrates increased by one day in Lower Burma and remained stationary in Upper Burma, but complaints of unreasonable delay in the disposal of cases by certain classes of magistrates were not wanting. In Sessions Courts there was a continued fall in duration in Lower Burma and no change in Upper Burma. Throughout the Province the activity in the administration of the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which was initiated by the outbreak of war in 1914, continued throughout the following year, and was reflected

in the figures of such cases in the reports. The necessity for care to confine the working of these sections within legitimate limits has been impressed on all magistrates. Complaints were again made of the excessive number of sentences of imprisonment for short terms and of fines in excess of the means of the delinquents to pay, imposed by magistrates. There was a substantial increase in the number of first offenders released on probation under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure but the number of boys sent to Reformatory Schools was considerably less than in former years. In Lower Burma there was a slight increase, in Upper Burma a considerable decrease, in the number of complaints to magistrates summarily dismissed. Honorary Magistrates continued to perform efficiently work of a most important nature and the question of an increase in the number of benches is under consideration. In Lower Burma the percentage of interference on appeal decreased while in Upper Burma it increased. There was a slight increase in the duration of appeals in both Lower and Upper Burma.

Prisons.

17. No cessation of the progressive increase in the jail population of the Province took place during the year, the total at the beginning, which was described as a record, being exceeded by over six hundred at the end of the year. The daily average number of prisoners in confinement was the highest recorded and was considerably in excess of the number which the jails were designed to accommodate. Practically every jail in the Province was overcrowded and measures for relief were under consideration. Extensions of jails at Mandalay and Henzada were completed and at Insein were in progress. There was a considerable increase in the total number of offences by prisoners against jail regulations but the number of serious offences, such as are dealt with by a Magistrate, was less. The gross expenditure and the gross and net cost of each prisoner to the State were all less than in 1914. The earnings of prisoners were on the whole less, so that the decrease in cost must be the result of the fall in prices of food stuffs purchased. The health of prisoners was fairly satisfactory though ratios per mille of admission to hospital, daily average sick and deaths were higher than in any year since 1911. Cholera appeared in six jails but the total number of cases was only thirteen, all of which proved fatal. A large proportion of the deaths occurred among prisoners addicted to the drug habit. The results of the working of the prison for juvenile convicts at Meiktila were encouraging. The manual training of youthful prisoners was continued in all central jails and introduced into the district jail at Akyab.

Civil Justice.

18. The most striking feature of the Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice during the year was the effect on the course of litigation produced by the war. Certain tendencies, only just noticeable in 1914, became with the lapse of time more and more pronounced and by the close of 1915 it was possible to formulate with precision certain conclusions. In both divisions of the Province there was a large increase in the number of suits instituted before the Courts, but this increase was in Lower Burma confined to suits for money and movable property and mortgage suits, and in Upper Burma, where the ordinary commercial type of mortgage is almost unknown, to suits of the former class alone. There were striking increases in the number of decrees passed *ex-parte* or on confession, the number of contested cases being actually less than in the previous

year. The number of suits relating to immovable property and the number of appeals preferred against decrees both shewed a marked decrease. The phenomena above stated are the natural results of the contraction of credit facilities which followed the outbreak of the war and of the unsatisfactory harvest prices of the principal crops. The money-lending classes were compelled to make free use of the machinery of the courts for the collection of their dues, while a larger proportion of debtors than usual did not take the trouble to deny the justice of the claims against them, or to tempt fortune in an appellate court. Suits relating to immovable property and, in Upper Burma, suits for the redemption of usufructuary mortgages, being essentially speculative transactions, diminished in number with the diminution in the aggregate of ready money available. In the duration of suits and the results of appeals there were no variations calling for remark. In the Chief Court of Lower Burma the services of an additional judge, and in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma of an additional Judicial Commissioner, were necessary during the year. In both courts there was a perceptible decrease in the volume of work and a reduction in the number of cases left undisposed of at the close of the year. There was an increase in the number of persons arrested in execution of decrees of civil courts, and the working of the Provincial Insolvency Act was again the subject of unfavourable comment.

Registration.

19. The number of registration offices remained unaltered during the year and changes in regulations and in the extension of the application of the law were few and unimportant. Very striking increases took place in the numbers of deeds of mortgage of immovable property and of deeds of sale of movable property which were presented for registration. The features of the year were a slight decrease both in numbers and value of deeds of sale of immovable property and a very large increase in number but without any corresponding increase in aggregate value of deeds of mortgage of similar property. Financial stringency combined with low prices of unhusked rice apparently compelled the raising of money on mortgage on an extensive scale. The revenue derived from registration increased substantially and the percentage of expenditure to income fell.

Joint Stock Companies.

20. Of the hundred and fourteen joint stock companies registered at the beginning of the year no fewer than fourteen ceased to do business before its close. Six new companies were registered during the year but of the total capital of seventy-nine lakhs of rupees, seventy-five lakhs were represented by one company. Of the total subscribed capital of nearly fifty lakhs of rupees of the fourteen companies which ceased to operate, forty-one lakhs belonged to one company. Thirteen companies, established outside British India, filed their papers during the year.

Rangoon Municipality.

21. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality increased by over half a lakh of rupees but ordinary expenditure increased by over 1¼ lakhs and exceeded the receipts by over a lakh of rupees. It was found impossible to raise any loans, and advances from revenue to pay for works normally chargeable to loan account reduced the closing balance to a very low figure and rendered it

necessary to obtain the sanction of the Local Government to an overdraft of not more than five lakhs of rupees from the Bank of Bengal. A large number of new buildings were assessed to municipal taxation The question of a new Municipal Act for Rangoon was under consideration throughout the year. An officer was deputed to Bombay by the Local Government to study on the spot the working of the system of municipal administration in that city, and his report was published after the close of the year. Additions were made to the equipment of the fire brigade and a testimonial to the improvement in its efficiency may be found in the fact that the total losses by fire were the lowest on record for the past ten years. The hope of carrying to completion an ambitious scheme for the improvement of the water supply had to be abandoned in the face of financial difficulties, but one important item, the laying of a new 42-inch steel main, was completed. The question of the revision of the contract for street lighting between the municipal committee and the Rangoon Electric Tramway and Supply Co., Ltd., remained in abeyance. Extensions were made in the area equipped with water and sewage connections, and old and worn-out sections of water and sewage mains were in several places renewed. A new municipal market was opened in East Rangoon to take the place of an old and insanitary bazaar which was closed. An agreement was reached on the long-standing question of the terms on which the Strand Market and the adjoining foreshore should be made over by the municipality to the Port Commissioners of Rangoon, but financial exigencies compelled the indefinite postponement of the date of the actual transfer. Another programme whose execution was rendered impossible by the continuance of the war was that of municipal road improvement. The impossibility of procuring asphalte or granite setts compelled the committee to renew the surface of many streets with ordinary metal. A general election of municipal commissioners in November 1915 excited considerable interest. The birth rate remained nearly constant, but there was a remarkable improvement in the death rate, which fell to a figure lower than any recorded for the preceding six years. An improvement took place in the rate of infantile mortality. There was a striking reduction in the number of cases of plague, cholera was again unimportant as a source of mortality, but small-pox attained almost epidemic proportions at the close of the year and there was a striking rise in the number of vaccinations. Attention was directed to the effects on the municipal sinking fund of the depreciation in the value of Government securities.

Minor municipalities.

22. The number of minor municipalities remained the same. The amount raised by taxation in them increased by over twenty-five thousand rupees. A few new imposts were levied. Public health was on the whole not satisfactory and there were serious epidemics of plague and cholera in many of the large towns. A satisfactory feature was the increased popularity of inoculation as a protection against plague. Sporadic cases of small-pox were reported in many towns but the disease never attained epidemic proportions. Further large allotments from Imperial Funds at the disposal of the Local Government for urban sanitary improvements were again made to various municipalities, and allowed of a continued activity on sanitary schemes, water-works, drainage, conservancy, and hospitals. Work on the construction of markets had to be curtailed on account of the high price of materials which were also difficult to procure. A disastrous fire in Pakôkku caused the destruction of property to the value of seventy lakhs of

rupees. The number of notified areas increased by one owing to the inclusion of Myitngè, the site of the new carriage and waggon building workshops of the Burma Railways in the Mandalay District. Here again grants from the Local Government enabled various schemes for sanitary improvement to be carried out.

Military.

23. The total strength of the troops forming the garrision of the Province was 7,747 officers and men of whom 2,676 were Europeans. No important military works were undertaken. The number of volunteers was not quite so large as in the previous year but still showed a very great increase over the figures normal before the outbreak of war. Changes in organisation were few and of slight importance.

Marine.

24. A further reduction took place in the revenue derived from coast-light dues and a further increase in the expenditure on the maintenance of light-houses and light-ships. The Government of India sanctioned the increase of the rate of coast-light dues from one anna and one pie to one anna and three pies per ton of burden with effect from 1st May 1916. Work at the Alguada Reef continued and it was hoped to complete the operations in another working season. Despite the frequent absence of the station ship on military duty reliefs, stores and provisions were duly supplied to all light stations, the health of light-keepers and the crews of light-ships was good, and the efficiency of the service was perfectly maintained. The Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon who budgetted for an excess of expenditure over receipts succeeded, by the curtailment of expenditure and the receipt of an income in excess of anticipations, in realising a surplus of five and a half lakhs of rupees at the close of the year. Income was practically the same as in the previous year while expenditure was reduced by a lakh and a half. The trade of the port was adversely affected by the conditions created by the war but the predominant position of Rangoon in the maritime trade of the Province was fully maintained. The experience of the working of the river training wall during the year was wholly satisfactory, the average sinkage along the top having been only five inches. In the embayment behind the wall the total accumulation of silt and sand was estimated at twenty-two million tons. The services of the Chairman of the Port Commissioners and of several members of the staff were placed at the disposal of the Government of India for duty in connection with port administration and river conservancy in Mesopotamia.

Commercial Marine.

25. There was no recovery from the serious fall in the total tonnage of ships entering and clearing from the ports of the Province which had to be recorded in the previous year. The figures of number of vessels were inflated by the inclusion of the largely increased number of sailing ships and native craft which have been tempted into activity by the partial eclipse of their formidable competitors, but a decline of about 400,000 tons in the aggregate of entrances and clearances shows the real position clearly enough. In the principal port, Rangoon, the total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the port was 9·48 per cent. less than in 1914-15 in which year a decline of 17·99 per cent. from the total of the previous year was recorded. The total for the year of report was lower than any for the previous ten years. In the coasting trade as well as the foreign trade the decline, as indicated by the figures, was serious. Of the vessels that entered

the ports of the Province during the year 77·20 per cent. flew British colours as against 77·49 per cent. in the previous year. Japan headed the list of foreign countries sending ships to the Province, followed by Norway and Holland. The demand for shipping was insistent throughout the year and far in excess of the supply, with the result that freights soared to heights previously undreamt of.

(4) Production and Distribution.

Agriculture.

26. Lack of funds rendered it impossible to carry into effect the increase of the superior staff of the Agricultural Department which had been sanctioned in the previous year. In order to supply a link between the department and the ordinary cultivator a beginning was made with a scheme for the appointment of district agriculturists and the establishment of district seed and demonstration farms, and by the end of the year twelve district agriculturists were at work, others were under training, and five farms had been acquired. The district agriculturist, working under the deputy director with the district farm as his head-quarters, is intended to work for the extension in his district of the use of improved seeds from the Government experimental stations and the introduction of new implements, and to act as a medium for conveying to the department information on local agricultural conditions. Subjects of considerable interest and importance were discussed at the biennial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference held at Mandalay in August 1915 and attended by over a thousand delegates. Rice is now and probably always will be the most important crop in the Province, and it is only fitting that the study of this crop, its soils and environment, and the development of pure strains and improved varieties, should be a permanent feature of the work at the department's experimental stations. The stage of distribution of seed of improved varieties in bulk has now been reached. It is however part of the work of the department to endeavour by the discovery of suitable and remunerative alternatives to counteract the disadvantages of an exclusive dependence on one staple, and at its various stations experiments were conducted with cotton, sessamum, sugar-cane, wheat, peas, beans and tobacco. The most promising results were obtained with wheat, cotton and sugar-cane. The experimental garden at Myitkyina was given up but experimental stations at Padu in Sagaing, Hopin in Myitkyina, Bugyi in Shwebo, Tatkôn in Yamèthin and Pwinbyu in Minbu Districts and Yawnghwe in the Southern Shan States were maintained in various stages of incompleteness of equipment, in addition to the principal farms at Mandalay in Upper and Hmawbi in Lower Burma.

Stock and cattle disease.

27. The year was a good one for live stock and for the fifth year in succession there was a decrease in the reported number of deaths from contagious disease, the total being the lowest on record and just over a fifth of the average mortality of the ten previous years. Rinderpest, the chief scourge, was, at least in a serious form, practically confined to Akyab and the districts bordering on the Shan States, China and Siam, and there is reason to hope that effective control of the trade in imported cattle will lead to the reduction to insignificant dimensions of the mortality from this disease. The Veterinary School at Insein continued to do good work in training assistants and the attached hospital in dealing with sick animals sent for treatment. The numbers of villages visited and of animals treated by veterinary assistants were the highest on record.

Weather and crops.

28. The season in Lower Burma was favourable and the harvest on the whole good, though unseasonable rains in November and December, accompanied by unusually cold winds, did some damage to the ripening rice crop, and in some districts compelled a revision downwards of a very optimistic final forecast of outturn. In Upper Burma the rains were unevenly distributed and the crops irregular, but fair late rains saved the situation in the worst districts. The rate of expansion in the occupied area of the Province was again slower than in the previous year. The unfavourable season in Upper Burma caused an increase in the area left fallow, but the area over which crops failed was less than in the previous year. The area under rice, millet, early sessamun, groundnuts, cotton and tobacco decreased while increases were recorded under maize, late sessamum, beans, and chillies. There was practically no increase in the area planted with rubber. The season was favourable for irrigation and there was a substantial increase in the area irrigated both from Government and private works.

Outturns and prices.

29. The yield of rice in the principal rice growing districts of Lower Burma was estimated to be 95 per cent. of the normal as compared with 81 per cent. the previous year. The exportable surplus was reckoned to be 300,000 tons more. In all districts the prices realized at harvest were better than in 1915, despite the disorganisation caused in the export market by customs restrictions and the uncertainty of the supply of shipping. The market for cotton recovered from the collapse of the previous year, whose effects were however still perceptible in the reduction of the area devoted to this crop. The outturn of groundnuts was about the same as in the previous year despite a reduction in area, and prices improved. A big rise in the price of chillies was caused by the stoppage of the regular imports from Madras. There was a striking advance in the quantity of rubber exported from the Province.

Agricultural loans.

30. Owing to the unfavourable economic conditions of the previous year it had been found necessary to suspend the repayment of very considerable sums which had been borrowed by cultivators as agricultural advances, and the collection of the amounts so suspended was successfully accomplished during the year of report. Advances were made even more freely than in previous years, the amount collected was large and the amount of which payment was suspended and the amount overdue at the close of the year were also not inconsiderable. Operations under the Land Improvement Loans Act are in this Province on a very humble scale and little interest is taken in loans for this purpose save in some districts where the construction of small embankments and minor irrigation works is usual.

Co-operation.

31. The year witnessed a considerable expansion of the co-operative credit movement although operations were confined to districts with societies already in existence. The recommendations of the Imperial Committee on Co-operation were adopted and put in practice without difficulty. Detailed instructions were issued with reference to the control of societies, apportioning to each controlling agency its sphere of activity and responsibility. The rules under the Act and the model by-laws for each class of society were revised and republished. The recommendations of the biennial Provincial Conference held at Mandalay in

August 1915 were, as far as possible, carried into effect. The working of the Agricultural Credit Societies was fair and that of the unions, upon which large additional burdens were imposed by a new system of finance, the remodelling of by-laws and in five districts by the formation of Cattle Insurance Societies, surpassed expectations. Owing to the necessity for making provision for the depreciation of Government paper and other securities caused by the war the working of the Upper Burma Central Co-operative Bank, Limited, for the year resulted in a loss of some nine thousand rupees, but there was no difficulty in obtaining deposits, repayments by societies were larger than ever before, and the expansion of the activities of the Bank suffered no check. Credit Societies were formed among the employees of the larger Government Offices in Rangoon. Cattle Insurance Societies were established in large numbers in five districts and the central cattle re-insurance society began operations with a considerable measure of success. The four colonies on waste land established under the auspices of the Co-operative Credit Department continued, despite difficulties to make substantial progress.

Horticulture.

32. The Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma in Rangoon continued its work during the year under slightly discouraging circumstances. There was a further decrease in the membership but the revenue account for the year showed a balance of profit. The annual flower show was temporarily abandoned owing to the war.

Forests.

33. The fact that neither civil nor forest officers were available for the work severely curtailed the area settled as reserved forest in comparison with that of the immediately preceding years. Progress was made in the work of survey and boundary demarcation of reserves already in existence. One working-plan for three forest reserves in the Ruby Mines District was sanctioned and others are in various stages of preparation but the area of forest reserve unprovided with any plan of management remains large. There was an increase in the number of forest offences. The area in which measures were taken for protection of the forests from fire was further reduced. Financial stringency led to a heavy reduction in the expenditure on buildings, roads and paths in the reserves. The war has led to severe depression in the timber trade. The number of teak trees girdled has fallen because of the falling behind of the work of extraction. At the sales of Government timber at the Rangoon Depôt the average price realized per ton was less than half of the average of 1913-14. The quantity of teak and of other reserved timbers extracted by purchasers recovered slightly from the very low level to which it had fallen in 1914-15 but there was a still further reduction in the amount of unreserved timber taken from the forests. An extraordinary demand for cutch caused a substantial increase in the revenue derived from minor forest produce.

Mines and quarries.

34. The demand for wolfram became extremely keen on account of its use in the manufacture of munitions and special measures were adopted for the enhancement of the output from the mines in the Tavoy District. The results of these measures were not fully evident in the statistics of the year of report. The yield of petroleum again increased and its value in still greater proportion. The ruby trade which was almost paralysed by the outbreak of war recovered

slightly on account of a fair demand for stones in the Indian market; little or no business was done in Europe. The most promising mining enterprise was perhaps the lead and silver mine of the Burma Mines Company at Namtu in the Northern Shan States. The wealth of this region was first demonstrated by the heaps of slag and tailings—rich in lead—left behind by Chinese miners who had worked for silver. After several years of labour at development the existence of very large bodies of valuable ore has been proved and the erection of machinery for its treatment is proceeding apace. The number of applications for mining concessions on which orders were passed was less than in the previous year but the number awaiting orders at the close of the year was greater. As in most years the search of the applicants was for petroleum in the dry zone or for minerals in the southern districts of Tenasserim.

Manufactures and factories.

35. There was little development of manufacturing industry and at the end of the year there were few signs of any change from the position of former years—an indigenous population predominantly agricultural and the dependence for labour of all factories on the immigrant Indian population. The only new industry recorded ceased to exist before the end of the year. The only large industries were rice-milling, saw-milling, petroleum refining and transport. There are annual fluctuations in the number of women and children employed in factories, but few signs of any permanent increase. Improvement was reported in the cleanliness and general care of the fabrics of factories, but permanent improvement of general sanitary conditions is very difficult on account of the lowlying nature of the sites of the majority along the banks of tidal creeks. Progress was made in the fencing of machinery. The health of operatives was generally fair. There was an increase in the numbers of both serious and minor accidents and in the number of prosecutions for offences under the Factories Act.

Maritime trade.

36. The effects of the war continued to be felt in the maritime trade of the Province; its total value was appreciably less than in 1914-15, which had experienced a decline of nearly 25 per cent. below the figures of the previous year. A comparison of the war months of 1914-15 with the corresponding months of the year of report shows that the value of the private trade of Rangoon with all ports slightly improved. The suspension of the regular coasting steamer services led to a very heavy fall in the value of the coastal trade. The foreign trade in the principal export, rice, despite a good demand was hampered by difficulty in obtaining shipping, by heavy freights and by restrictions on business rendered necessary by the war. Over half of the total exports went to India from which there was a good demand. The timber trade was seriously affected. Shipments declined both in quantity and value, and shipping difficulties and diminished foreign demand caused a steady fall in prices. On the other hand exports of mineral oils and their products continued on a very large scale, the oil to India for lighting purposes, and the products to the United Kingdom for the manufacture of munitions. Other articles which were in great demand owing to their use in connection with the war were hides and skins, of which the exports, though smaller in quantity, were of much greater value, cutch, the exports of which were the highest recorded, pig lead, the quantity of which exported increased by

67 and the value by 108 per cent.; and wolfram, the value of the exports of which also more than doubled. Imports of treasure fell to a very low figure and the trade balance in favour of the Province was thirteen and a half crores of rupees. The share in the trade which fell to the United Kingdom continued to expand, decrease in imports being more than set off by a considerable increase in exports. In the import trade the most noticeable features were the very great increases in the value of goods imported from Japan and the United States which took the place lost by Germany. The share in the total trade of the Province which passes through Rangoon continued to increase during the year; it amounted to well over four-fifths.

Transfrontier trade.

37. There was a heavy decline in the total value of the transfrontier trade. Imports continued to increase slightly, but the effect of this increase was swept away by a fall of twenty-eight lakhs of rupees in the aggregate value of the exports. There was an increase in the imports from Western China due principally to the rise in the price of silver, a large quantity of which found its way to Bhamo and thence to the Bombay silver market. In the case of the Northern Shan States the rapid development of the silver and lead mines at Namtu by the Burma Mines Company, Limited, led to large increases in both the export and the import trade. In unadministered Kachin territory, the Southern Shan States, Siam and Karenni large decreases were recorded. Part of the trade which formerly reached Siam through Moulmein is reported now to be done from Bangkôk.

Public Works—Roads and Buildings.

38. The effects of the war were visible in the reduction by fifteen lakhs of rupees of the expenditure of the roads and buildings branch of the Public Works Department on a comparison with the previous year. The balance, about eleven and a quarter lakhs, of the special grant of fifty lakhs made by the Government of India, was expended on improvements to communications. Among the numerous urgent problems raised by the sudden demand for large supplies of wolfram created by the war not the least important was the necessity for extensive improvements to the roads in the Tavoy and Mergui Districts, on which much money was spent and in which enormous improvements were effected during the year. In the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts the work of improving the frontier roads was continued. In connection with the whole question of communications in Burma the most important event of the year was the appointment by the Lieutenant-Governor of an Advisory Committee to consider and advise the Local Government upon the numerous related problems, such as the relative importance of through communications by trunk roads and the construction of feeder roads subordinate to the railway, the best methods of railway extension, and the action required in view of the progressive deterioration by silting up of many of the navigable creeks of the Irrawaddy Delta. The new customs house and new telegraph office in Rangoon were nearly completed at the close of the year. Good progress was made with the construction of the necessary buildings at Mawleik, the new headquarters of the Upper Chindwin District. The amount expended on public improvements and sanitary works was about one lakh of rupees more than in the previous year and was spread over numerous local works of town improvement, construction and repair of markets, and water-supply to towns. The expenditure on reclamation and the equipment of reclaimed areas in Rangoon was about three lakhs of rupees, the same amount as in the previous year.

Railways and tramways.

39. No new lines of railway were under construction or opened to traffic. The survey for a line of railway to connect Burma and India by what is known as the coast route through Chittagong and Akyab was completed and the report is under consideration. It was decided that, of the alternative routes, that through Manipur should be definitely excluded from further consideration, while the survey of that through the Hukong valley should be postponed. A survey for an extension of the Southern Shan States Railway from the present terminus at Aungban for about eighteen miles to Heho was completed. Various other projects for railway construction were under consideration. Only two accidents involving loss of life took place and there were no serious interruptions to traffic from floods. The statistics of traffic and revenue are eloquent on the adverse effects of the war. The only redeeming feature is a slight increase in the number of passengers carried. The net revenue which fell by nearly fifteen lakhs of rupees in the previous year has diminished by a further eight lakhs and the percentage earned on the capital outlay has fallen still lower than before.

Irrigation and navigation works.

40. For the three major irrigation works of the Province which are in operation the year was prosperous. The area irrigated by them increased slightly, while there was a substantial increase in receipts and a very considerable diminution of working expenses. The net revenue thus increased from three to ten lakhs of rupees and the average rate of interest earned on capital outlay from 1·31 to 3·70 per cent. It must however be borne in mind that these improved results are in part due to the collection in the year of report of revenue due on account of the crop of the previous year. Good progress was made in the construction of the Ye-u Canal. The working of the minor irrigation systems for which capital accounts are not kept shewed a slight improvement over that of the previous year. The rainfall was variable. In Mandalay District, where it was over the average, damage was caused by floods; in Shwebo, Kyauksè and Minbu it was sufficient and large increases of revenue were realized; in Meiktila and Yamèthin the rains were bad and revenue decreased considerably. The revenue derived from embankments was slightly less than in the previous year.

The working of the navigation canals yielded a small profit instead of a loss as in the previous year. The Sittang-Kyaikto Canal was breached by the erosion of the Sittang River and abandoned. Traffic continued to be impeded by the growth of the water hyacinth weed. Work continued on the project for the improvement of the Twante Canal and the total expenditure at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 68 lakhs.

(5) Finance.

Provincial Financial Settlement.

41. The disappointing working of the Provincial Settlement which regulates the financial relations of the Imperial and Provincial Governments was mitigated by the grant of a fixed recurring assignment of 15·11 lakhs of rupees from Imperial to Provincial and by the guarantee, to take effect from the first financial year after the close of the war, of a fixed revenue annually increasing by eight lakhs, for a short term of years.

Gross revenue and expenditure.

42. The figures of gross revenue and expenditure may in some ways be interpreted as evidence of a recovery from the earliest effects of the war. The

total receipts classified as Imperial and Provincial, which in 1914-15 had fallen by over ninety-six lakhs of rupees to Rs. 9,07·20 lakhs, increased by over twelve lakhs to Rs. 9,19·56 lakhs, of which, under the terms of the Settlement, Rs. 3,65·24 lakhs were credited to Imperial Funds and Rs. 5,54·32 lakhs to Provincial Funds. A reduction of over thirty-seven lakhs of rupees was made in the combined expenditure, the total falling from Rs. 6,73·87 lakhs to Rs. 6,36·45 lakhs. Expenditure from Imperial Funds was reduced by five lakhs and that from Provincial Funds by thirty-two lakhs of rupees. The gross income of district funds and municipal funds decreased by about two-and-a-half lakhs of rupees in each case, and considerable inroads were made on reserves, since gross district fund expenditure increased by over eight and three-quarter lakhs and municipal expenditure by over three lakhs of rupees. The receipts of other local funds, for which in the previous year a decrease of Rs. 46·01 lakhs was recorded, fell by a further sum of Rs. 22·43 lakhs, which was however more than counterbalanced by a decrease amounting to Rs. 51·13 lakhs in expenditure.

Land Revenue.

43. Gross receipts under the head "Land Revenue" for the year ending the 31st March 1916 were Rs. 4,64·18 lakhs, an increase of over eighteen lakhs of rupees over the figures of the previous year. Under the adjustment provided by the Provincial Settlement, Rs. 1,72·53 lakhs of this are credited to Imperial and Rs. 2,91·65 lakhs to Provincial Funds, the increase being Rs. 6·50 lakhs and Rs. 11·61 lakhs respectively. All heads contributed to this increase except fishery revenue which diminished by nearly four-and-a-half lakhs of rupees. Miscellaneous land revenue recovered amply from its set-back of four-and-a-half lakhs in 1914-15, the total increase being close on ten lakhs, towards which petroleum contributed eight and three-quarter lakhs. Ordinary land revenue increased by nearly six lakhs, capitation tax by about half a lakh and house tax by about a quarter of a lakh.

Customs.

44. The profound dislocation in maritime trade which has been produced by the war is reflected in the figures of customs revenue which, in addition to the decrease of Rs. 65·65 lakhs recorded in the previous year, fell by a further sum of Rs. 1·32 lakh. An increase in receipts from imports was more than counterbalanced by a larger decrease in the receipts from exports. A slight reduction was effected in expenditure and the net revenue was Rs. 1,13·16 lakhs as against Rs. 1,14·42 lakhs in the previous year.

Salt.

45. No change in the rates of duty levied on salt manufacture was made. The restriction of salt imports caused by the war acted as a stimulant to the local production and the year witnessed an enormous increase in the output of the Province. The proportion of Burma-made salt to the total consumption of the Province rose from twenty-two to thirty-two per cent. The quantity of foreign salt imported diminished by 38 per cent. and the amount of duty collected by nearly four and a half lakhs of rupees. Imports from Germany and the Red Sea port of Salif entirely ceased. The principal source of fresh supplies was Spain. To meet a threatened exhaustion of stocks a quantity of salt on which duty had already been paid was imported at one period of the year from Calcutta. Imports of salted fish were interfered with by the lack of shipping facilities and fell to the

lowest figure on record. The total revenue derived from salt and salt fish was less than in the previous year by over three and a half lakhs of rupees.

Excise.

46. There was a fall of over seven and three-quarter lakhs of rupees in the net revenue derived from Excise on a comparison with the figures of the previous year. The yield from opium increased very slightly, but the effects of the losses suffered by the liquor trade on account of the outbreak of war in the middle of the previous year were visible in an all-round reduction of the prices realised at the auction sales of licenses for the sale of liquor in April 1915. There was a slight decrease in the total quantity of opium issued to licensed shops. The quantity of contraband and smuggled opium seized was much less than in the previous year. Imports by sea from India were restricted by the irregularity of shipping connections and a well-planned scheme for the utilisation of the parcels post for the introduction of opium into Rangoon from Calcutta was brought to light. A combination of circumstances, first destruction of growing crops of poppies by Chinese troops, then the declaration of independence and the opening of free trade in opium combined with poor crops, led to an enormous demand for opium from Yünnan and very high prices. Nearly the whole of the surplus product of opium from the Shan States was therefore diverted to Yünnan. Little was smuggled into Burma, and hill peoples who had hitherto supplied their requirements from this source were forced to make purchases from the licensed shops. The increased value of hill opium led to a considerable extension of the area of illicit cultivation of the poppy in Myitkyina District. There was a slight recovery in the quantity of spirits imported into Burma after the very heavy fall of the previous year, but figures were still much below what was formerly regarded as normal. The statistics of the fees realised by the sale of licenses for the vend of the various classes of liquors exhibited a uniform tale of considerable reductions from the figures of the previous year. Of the balance of the Excise revenue which remained uncollected at the end of 1914-15 only a little over two per cent. was realised and the remainder had to be written off. A promising start was made with the teaching of temperance as a subject in the schools of the Province. There was a decrease in the number of offences reported of which drunkenness was a cause or contributory but doubt is thrown on the reliability of the figures. There was a very great reduction in the quantity of cocaine seized; supplies are practically cut off and what is obtainable is usually adulterated with other and less harmful drugs. There were increases in the number of convictions for offences in connection with morphia and in the quantity of the drug seized.

Stamps.

47. Nearly half of the amount by which the receipts from stamps in 1914-15 fell short of the receipts of the previous year was recovered in the year of report. There were increases in the receipts under both the Court Fees Act and the Stamp Act. The increase in the former naturally followed from the increase in the number of civil suits filed during the year, and in the case of the latter the increase in the number of deeds of sale and mortgage presented for registration during the year implied an increased use of non-judicial stamps. The net receipts from stamps were over thirty-four lakhs of rupees.

Assessed taxes.

48. The tax on incomes yielded twenty-four and a half lakhs of rupees or over half a lakh less than in the previous year. There were slight decreases in the

amounts collected on account of salaries paid by Government and paid by local authorities, and an increase to the highest figure yet reached of the collections on salaries paid by companies or private employers. There was a decrease of eleven in the number of companies assessed and collections from this source fell by over seven per cent. There was a decrease in the number of assessees other than companies and the amount collected from those assessed was over five per cent. less. In Rangoon the drop from this source was over ten per cent. The tax was collected without difficulty and the balance outstanding at the close of the year was less than a third of the similar balance at the end of 1914-15.

Provincial revenue and finance.

49. The Provincial receipts for the year increased by Rs. 4·12 lakhs to Rs. 5,54·32 lakhs despite a reduction by Rs. 6·13 lakhs in the amount assigned from Imperial Funds. An increase of over eleven and a half lakhs of rupees from Land Revenue raised the receipts from this source to the level which they occupied before the war. A number of increases of moderate amounts under other heads of revenue raised the total increase to Rs. 15·67 lakhs. There fell to be set against this however a total decrease of Rs. 11·55 lakhs under other heads, of which the most important was the reduction in the contribution from Imperial Funds above noted, and the next a fall of nearly four lakhs of rupees in receipts from Excise. The total of Provincial expenditure was reduced by Rs. 32·26 lakhs from Rs. 5,96·32 lakhs to Rs. 5,64·05 lakhs. The expenditure on public works was reduced by Rs. 27·40 lakhs and the expenditure on the Putao District and the North-East Frontier by Rs. 6·37 lakhs. Other directions in which retrenchments were effected in expenditure were on medical relief, Rs. 5·26 lakhs, and education, Rs. 1·22 lakh.

Forests.

50. The receipts of the Forest Department in the financial accounts for the year ending 31st March 1916 shew a decrease of Rs. 8,477, but in the departmental report covering the year ending the 30th June 1916 an increase of Rs. 6·17 lakhs. Even with the latter figures the revenue was far from having recovered from the effects of the outbreak of war and the timber market remained disorganised. Expenditure rose by Rs. 2·06 lakhs to Rs. 48·86 lakhs and the net revenue was Rs. 48·13 lakhs.

Local Funds.

51. The aggregate receipts of the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma increased by over half a lakh of rupees to nearly thirty-five and a half lakhs owing to an increase in the amount derived from the cess on land revenue. The aggregate expenditure of the funds rose from thirty-six and a quarter to thirty-nine lakhs principally on account of increased expenditure on public works. The aggregate income of the District Funds in Upper Burma was nominally about three lakhs less than in the previous year but the decrease was due to a contribution from Provincial Funds of over four lakhs for road improvement in 1914-15. This contribution was spent in the year of report and its existence accounts for a large nominal increase in the expenditure on public works. All the District Cess and District Funds were reported to be solvent at the end of the year. Of the seven Cantonment Funds only two, those of Rangoon and Mandalay, are self-supporting. The others are only able to shew a closing balance by means of grants-in-aid from Government. Difficulties in connection with the Moulmein Port

Fund, reported in the previous year, were not yet surmounted at the close of the year of report. The Rangoon Pilot Fund continued to work at a loss. With these exceptions the position of the Port and Pilot Funds of the Province was reported to be satisfactory. The Steam-boiler Inspection Fund holds Government securities to the face value of a lakh and a quarter of rupees in addition to a closing balance of nearly eighty thousand rupees.

Municipal finance.

52. The impossibility of raising money by loan has seriously affected the finance and accounts of the Rangoon Municipality. It was found necessary to make advances from revenue account to pay for works for which in normal times a loan would have been raised. Excluding from the gross receipts all such items as opening balances and receipts from loans or grants, the ordinary income of the year was Rs. 44·19 lakhs or Rs. 66,000 more than in 1914-15, and after the exclusion of all disbursements on capital account the ordinary expenditure was Rs. 45·27 lakhs or a lakh and a quarter in excess of that of 1914-15. Owing to the advances made for capital expenditure the closing balance of the municipal fund at the end of the year fell to just over a lakh of rupees. The increase of receipts was spread very evenly over all the heads of municipal revenue. The increases in expenditure were due to the purchase of a fire engine and equipment and to various improvements in sanitation and in public markets. No loan was raised during the year but the Local Government sanctioned the acceptance by the municipality of an overdraft not exceeding five lakhs of rupees from the Bank of Bengal. The balance at the credit of the Town Lands Reclamation Fund which at the beginning of the year was Rs. 3·82 lakhs fell to Rs. 2·31 lakhs at its close. The aggregate income of the other municipalities, exclusive of debt accounts and opening balances, was two and three-quarter lakhs of rupees less than in the previous year while ordinary expenditure increased by nearly two and a half lakhs. No loans were granted during the year and the amount due by the municipalities to Government decreased from Rs. 10·32 lakhs to Rs. 9·62 lakhs.

Note circulation.

53. The average active currency note circulation for the year was Rs. 4,82·24 lakhs, being more than that of the previous year by seventy lakhs of rupees. The year 1914-15 was, as a result of the outbreak of war, the first year in which a break occurred in the uninterrupted increase of the circulation of currency notes, and the ground then lost was more than recovered in the succeeding year. The proportion of notes of the ten-rupee denomination in the total currency again increased and the proportion of the 10-rupee and 100-rupee notes to the total value was over 94 per cent.

(6) Vital Statistics and Medical Services.

Births and deaths.

54. The area under registration remained unchanged. The birth-rate for the Province was 35·13 per mille, a figure not much removed from 35·40 per mille the rate of the previous year, but comparing favourably with 33·70 per mille the average of the preceding five years. The death-rate increased from 24·13 to 27·99 per mille and the natural rate of increase fell from 11 to under 8 per mille. The urban birth-rate was, especially in Lower Burma, very much lower than the rural birth-rate. Both urban and rural death-rates were substantially higher than in the

previous year. The rate of infantile mortality per mille of births which in 1914 fell from the previous year's figure of 221·40 to 216·36 rose again in 1915 to 219·35. The high general death-rate was caused by a severe epidemic of cholera which visited numerous districts in both divisions of the Province.

Plague.

55. Plague was much less widespread than in 1914. It is mainly prevalent in towns; of the 3,711 deaths from this cause recorded only 929 took place in rural areas. The plague death-rate for the whole Province was 0·47 per mille—in 1914 it was 0·76—but the urban death-rate was 3·38 per mille and the rural only 0·11 per mille. The use of inoculation as a prophylactic against the disease is becoming much more common, especially in towns which have suffered severely from epidemics in the past.

Medical relief.

56. There was an increase of four in the number of hospitals and dispensaries open at the end of the year over that at the beginning. Three travelling dispensaries were at work for the first time. There was again a substantial increase in the total number of patients treated. The percentage of Burmese patients to the total number increased from 52·3 to 54·2 and a steady increase in the amount of medical relief afforded to the indigenous population was apparent. The proportion of the total number of patients treated who died increased slightly from 5·9 to 6·4 per cent. The Burma Pasteur Institute was open for the last eight months of the year and in that period 146 patients underwent a full course of anti-rabic treatment. Medical expenditure increased from Rs. 19·83 lakhs to Rs. 20·74 lakhs. There was no increase in the cadre of the Indian Medical Service or in the number of civil surgeons. The Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon, had a prosperous year. There was a further increase in the number of persons confined in the lunatic asylums at Rangoon and Minbu on the last day of the year as compared with the number on the last day of 1914 and an increase also in the daily average strength during the year. The death-rate among the inmates also increased.

Sanitation.

57. A divisional sanitary board met on two occasions, once to consider a water-supply scheme and the second time to discuss questions connected with the lay-out, construction and equipment of the new towns which spring into existence in the vicinity of railway stations The recurring grant of six lakhs of rupees made by the Government of India, augmented by unspent balances of the previous year, was expended on schemes for the furtherance of urban sanitation. Tube-wells were sunk in various towns and projects for water-supply and the construction of markets in others were in various stages of preparation. Municipal and local bodies expended on sanitary works a sum of Rs. 57 lakhs out of a total income of Rs. 196 lakhs.

Vaccination.

58. The number of persons vaccinated and re-vaccinated during the year was but little different from that of the previous year. The number of persons per thousand of the population protected by vaccination fell from 33·02 to 32·7. There was a slight increase in expenditure. New laboratory buildings were occupied at the Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila, on the 1st April 1915. There was a slight fall in the outturn of lymph. Experiments made in storing lymph were successful.

(7) Instruction.

Education.

59. In spite of the war and its effects there was an increase in the number of pupils in all stages of instruction. The rate of progress of recent years was not maintained, principally on account of the general curtailment of expenditure, a curtailment which bore with special severity on the Education Department. The present period of comparative quietude is being utilised for the making in advance preparations for a future wide extension of the sphere of educational administration. It was decided to press forward the passing into law of the Bill for the establishment of a University in Burma and to proceed with the early formation of the University from the material already available in the buildings, staff and organization of the Rangoon College and the Baptist College, while making provision for the expansion of the University to the dimensions originally contemplated as soon as funds for the purpose might be available. The Bill has been submitted to the Government of India, and a site for the University has been selected and funds provided for its purchase. There was a considerable increase both in the number of vernacular secondary schools and in the number of pupils attending them, but an analysis of the figures shews that eighty-eight per cent. of the pupils are in the primary stage, ten per cent. in the middle standards and only a hundred and thirty or less than one per cent. in the high stage. Apart from the profession of teaching there are at present but few outlets for the students leaving from the middle and high standards of vernacular schools. It is hoped to provide machinery for the transformation of such students into the skilled agriculturists, surveyors, engineers, foresters, medical and veterinary practitioners, craftsmen and artisans who are so urgently needed for the development of the Province. Another problem in connection with vernacular secondary schools is the necessity for raising the efficiency of the teaching given in them, the percentage of students presented who pass their examinations being at present noticeably low. This defect is common to both vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools but is most prominent in the former. The decline in the number of Anglo-vernacular primary schools was due to the fact that such schools are constantly being raised in status to middle schools and the primary education continues to be imparted in their primary departments. The question whether the curriculum of studies in primary schools should continue to be the same as the curriculum of the primary departments of middle and high schools or should be modified to suit the peculiar requirements of the average pupils of primary schools, was under consideration. The scheme of elementary training classes for teachers in the lower standards of vernacular primary schools attained an encouraging measure of success. The whole question of the supply of teachers including qualifications, training and emoluments was under consideration. Serious difficulties continued to be experienced in connection with technical education. Little success was attained in the weaving, school gardening or manual training classes. There is little demand for technical instruction and education is popularly regarded as including nothing but the training necessary for a clerical career or Government service; the natural result is that the number of pupils was meagre. In marked contrast to the results obtained in other directions was the success of the Engineering School, Insein. The prevalence of co-education vitiates all calculations and inferences regarding female education based on the statistics of girls' schools as such.

Literature and presses.

60. The year was apparently not propitious for the publication of new books, the number of which fell to a figure lower than any recorded for the previous five years. Three novels in English, one of dubious originality, were about the only new feature noticeable. As in previous years publications in the Burmese language, and dealing with one or other of the innumerable ramifications of religion, formed the bulk of the output. Descriptions of Germany and Turkey and histories of the war, one of them published in parts, were published in Burmese. Most of the English books were of the educational or religious order, manuals, text-books, catechisms and other works of that class. There was a considerable reduction in the number of printing presses in the Province, probably in consequence of the stricter administration of the law. Eleven newspapers were discontinued and two appeared for the first time and the number of periodicals published, exclusive of those issued from Government presses, remained unaltered.

Arts and Sciences.

61. The art industries remained in the shadow of the depression caused by the war. Some steps were taken to effect that organisation in which apparently lies the best hope for their permanent improvement. One group of lacquer workers formed themselves into a co-operative credit society. The weaving school at Amarapura extended the scope of its operations and increased the number of its pupils. The systematic grant of scholarships to art pupils inaugurated in the previous year was continued. A master wood carver was engaged at the Government School of Engineering, Insein, for the training of pupils in that art. The annual art exhibition was held in January with a smaller number of exhibits than usual.

(8) Archæology.

62. The preparation of materials for a monograph on the terra-cotta plaques found at and near the Petleik Pagoda at Pagan was continued to the stage at which the writing of the monograph can be begun. The decipherment and translation of Talaing inscriptions on 400 plaques at the Ananda temple at Pagan were completed. The provincial list of ancient remains in Burma was published. Inscriptions on the Myazedi pillar threw light on the language of the ancient people of Burma known as the Pyu as to which information had hitherto been very scanty. A chronological list was compiled of all inscriptions found in Burma dated from the eleventh till the fourteenth century.

PART II.

DEPARTMENTAL CHAPTERS.

NOTE.—The departmental reports and other references on which this *Report on the Administration of Burma* is based, are noted at the beginning of each chapter. The departmental reports do not all cover the same period. The Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice, the Police, Prisons, the Registration Department, the Salt Revenue, the Measures adopted for the Extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes, Lunatic Asylums, the Reports of the Chemical Examiner and the Bacteriologist, the Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, and the Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration deal with events which took place within the calendar year 1915; the Shan States, Chin Hills and North-Eastern Frontier Reports, the Land Revenue, Land Records, and Forest Administration Reports, the Season and Crop Report, the Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Report of the Department of Agriculture are concerned with the agricultural year from the 1st July 1915 to the close of June 1916. All other reports cover the twelve months of the official or financial year that ended on 31st March 1916.

CHAPTER I.

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Report on the Administration of the Chin Hills for the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Report on the Administration of the North-Eastern Frontier for the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Season and Crop Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1916.

PHYSICAL.

Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate, and Chief Staples.

POLITICAL.

Historical Summary.

For information on the foregoing subjects, a reference should be made to paragraphs 1 to 18 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Form of Administration.

For information on this subject a reference should be made to paragraphs 19 to 38 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12 and to paragraph 1 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1914-15.

Character of Land Tenures: System of Survey and Settlement.

For information on this subject a reference should be made to paragraphs 39 to 55 f the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Civil Divisions of British Territory.

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For information on this subject a reference should be made to paragraphs 56 to 68 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12 and to paragraph 2 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1914-15.

Details of the last Census: Tribes and Languages.

For information on this subject a reference should be made to paragraphs 69 to 76 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Changes in the Administration.

The Lieutenant-Governor.

1. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson, M.A., LL.D., KT., K.C.S.I., I.C.S., was Lieutenant-Governor of Burma from the beginning of the year till 28th October 1915 when he was succeeded by the Hon'ble Sir Spencer Harcourt Butler, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., who held the appointment during the remainder of the year.

Administrative territorial changes.

2. With effect from the 15th May 1915 the Myedè Subdivision of the Thayetmyo District which had formerly consisted of two townships, Allanmyo and Thanbula, was divided into the two townships of Allanmyo and Sinbaungbwè with headquarters at Allanmyo and Sinbaungbwè respectively. Five village-tracts were transferred from the Minhla to the Letpadan Township of the Tharrawaddy District on 25th May 1915. From 1st March 1916 the Bassein Subdivision of Bassein District was divided into two townships, known respectively as East Bassein and West Bassein, the headquarters of both being in Bassein. The Myitkyina District which was formerly composed of three subdivisions, Myitkyina, Mogaung, and Kamaing was with effect from 1st March 1916 re-arranged as one subdivision, Myitkyina, with three townships, Myitkyina, Mogaung and Kamaing.

Additions to and changes in the Administrative Staff.

3. An increase of one in each of the second and third grades of the Subordinate Civil Service was made during the year in consequence of the territorial changes in the Bassein and Myitkyina Districts described in the foregoing paragraph.

Relations with Tributary States and Frontier Affairs.

(*i*) *Shan and Karenni States.*

[*Southern Shan States*: 38 *States, area* 36,154 *square miles, population* 836,571, *tribute Rs.* 2,71,800; *Karenni*: *five States, area* 4,280 *square miles, population* 63,628, *tribute Rs.* 5,350; *Northern Shan States*: *five States, area* 16,594 *square miles, population* 480,390, *tribute Rs.* 1,54,500; *Möng Mit*: *area* 3,562 *square miles, population* 53,214, *tribute Rs.* 20,000; *Hsawnghsup* (*Thaungthut*): *area* 579 *square miles, population* 7,724, *tribute Rs.* 400; *Singkaling Khāmti* (*Zingilein Kanti*): *area* 983 *square miles, population* 2,560, *tribute Rs.* 100; *Khamti Lŏng* (*Kanti-gyi*) *or Bhor Khamti*: *area* 374 *square miles, population* (*approximate*) 6,661, *tribute Rs.* 2,500 (*approximate*).]

The Southern Shan States.

4. The economic conditions which the war has created in the Southern Shan States were reflected in the fall in the value of trade between the States and Burma. There was a large reduction in the number of cattle sent down to the plains and a rise in the price of goods brought up, against which could be set off an unusually good trade in potatoes owing to the cessation of the usual imports from India. The Southern Shan States Railway was open throughout the year and proved its value as a boon to trade and a stimulus to cultivation. Progress was made in laying out Kalaw and equipping it as a hill

station. In February a rising took place against the ruler of the State of Möng Hsu and his son the heir-apparent. The rebels were quickly dispersed by contingents furnished by the neighbouring Chiefs and order was finally restored by the arrival of military police from Loilem and the Northern Shan States. The administration was generally satisfactory and in some instances distinctly creditable. One Chief received the K.S.M. and one the A.T.M. decoration for services in crushing a dangerous movement on the frontier in the preceding year. The British side of the border was entirely peaceful. Alarms caused by the arrival in Kēngtūng State of unusually large numbers of muleteers proved unfounded, the men being peaceful traders and departing quietly. The Chinese-Shan border States remained quiet though the destruction of the opium crop by the Chinese authorities aroused bitter resentment. In French Indo-China it was found necessary to place the Laos province under martial law. The Chief of a State on the Mekong openly revolted and two expeditions of local forces were sent against him. The State was re-occupied, but the Chief escaped to Chinese territory. The number of cases of cognizable crime reported was 289 as against 227 in 1914-15. The increase was due to better reporting and better recording. Fourteen cases were struck off as false, 83 were mistaken, 46 were transferred to State Courts and 15 were pending at the close of the year. There were 131 true cases dealt with as against 107 in the previous year. Of these 67 cases were prosecuted to conviction, 3 resulted in discharge or acquittal, in 12 cases investigation was refused, 8 were compounded and 41 were undetected. Of the 137 persons arrested 90 were convicted. The work of the State police was generally fair though in Yawnghwe the number of undetected cattle thefts was high. The number of true criminal cases reported was 1,198, classified as, violent crimes 27, cattle theft 196, ordinary theft 293 and other crime 682. Violent crime increased by 2, ordinary theft by 22 and other crimes by 65 cases while there were 8 fewer cattle thefts. Twenty of the violent crimes were murders, attempts to murder or culpable homicide, one was robbery with murder, five robberies and one assembly to commit dacoity. Two of the murders were committed by lunatics. As usual the number of cases of cattle theft was large though the figures show an improvement on those of the previous year. Yawnghwe was the worst State and a gang of six men operating in Möng Nai were traced to Yawnghwe, arrested and convicted. There were 66 civil suits pending at the beginning of the year, 738 suits were filed during the year and 765 suits disposed of leaving a balance of 39 suits pending at the close of the year. The total value of the 738 suits was Rs. 1,08,318 as compared with 761 suits valued at Rs. 1,48,424 in 1914-15. Over 69 per cent. of the suits filed were under Rs. 100 in value. A steady increase in the number of cases in Yawnghwe is attributed to the naturally litigious character of the Intha population of that State.

The rainfall though below the average was timely and well distributed with the result that a good rice crop was reaped in all States and a bumper crop in some. Möng Nai and the western part of Kēngtūng were practically the only places where there was failure. The area under wheat increased and the crop was good. Cattle were fairly healthy, but there were bad outbreaks of rinderpest in several places causing serious losses. There was no change in the area of reserved forests. The proposed Sinhe reserve in Yawnghwe was abandoned and the reservation of the Taungla and Kalaw areas in Hsamöngkham was postponed for further investigation. Forest revenue for the year was Rs. 71,173 and expenditure Rs. 1,04,245. Fifty-three cases of forest offences involving 119 persons were dealt with and Rs. 324 was collected as compensation. The year was a bad one for the smaller timber traders, who cannot afford to retain stocks in expectation of a rise in prices, and some of them were forced to sell their elephants. The number of applications for prospecting licenses received was 15 and 2 were pending from the previous year. Ten licenses were issued, two applications were rejected, one withdrawn and four pending at the close of the year. Most applications were connected with wolfram in an area near the Panlaung river in Yengan State. Four mining leases are in force and one application for another for lead-mining is pending. About ten thousand viss of lead were won and disposed of at high prices.

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Of public works executed by Government the hospital at Bampôn was completed and many new bridges were built on the Taunggyi cart road. A ward for Shan patients in Loilem Hospital built at the cost of the *Sawbwa* of Lai Kha, the Kalaw water-supply scheme and the large scale survey of the notified area of Kalaw were in progress. The total expenditure by the Chiefs on public works was Rs. 4·10 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·75 lakhs were derived from revenue and Rs. 1·35 lakh from remissions of tribute. In the Myelat, a congeries of small States on the borders of Burma, a beginning was made with a scheme for connecting each State with the railway by two main roads, one running north and one south from the line and a few branch roads, but the small size, limited financial resources and indifferent official honesty of the individual States presented difficulties, in spite of which however progress was made. In the remainder of the States the principal expenditure took place on the construction of new, and the repair of existing, cart roads. Bazaars were built in Lai Kha, Möng Kung and Möng Nai and something was done for town improvement in Möng Nai and Mawkmai.

Except in a few places the year was a good one for the cultivator despite his failure to sell his cattle in Burma and losses by rinderpest. In the Western Subdivision an improvement in general well-being followed the opening of the railway. The only class to suffer by the abnormal conditions in the outside world were the timber traders. The aggregate revenue collected by the States was Rs. 12·02 lakhs as compared with Rs. 11·92 lakhs in 1914-15. The total of the closing balances was Rs. ·83 lakh. The improvement in revenue was not confined to any one portion of the States but evenly distributed. There was an improvement in the revenue administration everywhere and a welcome absence of any financial scandals. The number of patients treated at the hospitals and dispensaries under the supervision of the Civil Surgeon, Taunggyi, was 43,585 outdoor and 1,409 indoor as against 45,913 and 1,443 respectively in the previous year. There was an increase in the attendance at the Bampôn Civil Hospital, at the *Sawbwa's* hospital at Yawnghwe and at the itinerant dispensary in the Myelat but a falling off elsewhere. There was an increased attendance at all the institutions under the care of the Civil Surgeon, Loimwe, from 10,346 outdoor and 524 indoor patients to 11,625 outdoor and 639 indoor patients The railway hospital at Kalaw treated 7,249 outdoor and 114 indoor patients and the American Baptist Mission Hospital at Möng Nai 4,689 outdoor and 14 indoor patients. In the cis-Salween States under the Civil Surgeon, Taunggyi, 15,862 persons were vaccinated—14,887 successfully. Two deputy inspectors of schools continued at work during the year. Two pupils qualified as secondary and five as elementary teachers. A scheme was prepared for the establishment of a Government vernacular primary school with a training class for elementary teachers attached, in order to provide for what is most wanted, the supply of teachers for the extension of elementary education. The number of boys at the school for the sons of Shan Chiefs increased to 84—the highest number on record—and the general health and conduct were good.

The Karenni States

5. The administration of the Karenni States was continued on the same lines as in previous years. Defalcations in forest revenue and corruption in other branches of revenue administration were brought to light in Kantarawadi, the largest of the States, resulting in the removal of the chief revenue official, two clerks and the head judicial clerk. The prosperity of the people was seriously affected by the fall in the price of teak, their sole export. The quantity of timber sold was greater than in the previous year, but sales were only effected from dire necessity and prices were very poor. The wealth of the community is reported to have seriously diminished. Relations with Siamese frontier officials were cordial and assistance was freely given when asked for. The strength of the military police garrison at Loikaw post was considerably increased in connection with the strict watch maintained over the Siamese frontier in order to prevent the ingress of undesirable persons, but reduced to normal at the close of the year. There was only one case of violent crime, a murder by a lunatic. The number of cattle thefts was about the same as in the previous year, 31 as against 32, but ordinary thefts rose from 25 to 42 and other crimes from 35 to 69, probably as the result of the deterioration in the economic condition of the people caused by the state of

the timber trade. A serious recrudescence of an old trouble, elephant theft, took place. Thirteen elephants were stolen from the Karenni States, ten of which were recovered. The Bombay Burma Trading Corporation reported the theft of three elephants from their forests at Mainglôngyi in Siam and two were stolen from the Salween District. There was an increase in the number of civil suits owing to the efforts of capitalists to recover loans made by them to timber workers. Crops were poor in two circles of Kantarawadi State and good elsewhere, but all the States depend to an enormous extent on imported rice for their subsistence. At the Mawchi Mines 11,500 tons of ore were crushed and yielded 368 tons of concentrates of about equal amounts of tin and wolfram. Difficulties were experienced in maintaining the European staff at adequate strength and the problem of transporting the concentrates to Rangoon has not yet been solved satisfactorily, neither of the existing routes being passable in the rains. In Kantarawadi State, Rs. 28,079 was spent on public works, Rs. 23,079 from revenue and Rs. 5,000 from remission of tribute. Four miles of cart road were constructed and improvements made in Loikaw town. The total revenue of the year of the five Karenni States increased from Rs. 1·28 lakh in 1914-15 to Rs. 1·72 lakh. The increase was solely in Kantarawadi, the revenue of all the smaller States being less than in the previous year. The increase in Kantarawadi was principally due to the detection of fraud in previous years and the recovery of arrears and collection of the full revenue due. The year closed with a balance in hand of Rs. 52,740, of which Rs. 15,000 was on deposit in the Bank of Bengal as a reserve for emergencies.

The Northern Shan States.

6. Hkun Hsang Tôn Hung, *Sawbwa* of North Hsenwi, died at Hsenwi on 4th April 1916. He had latterly taken no part in the administration of his State and had devoted himself entirely to a religious society to which he contributed large sums of money. The administration of the State after his death remained in the hands of the principal officials pending the settlement of the question of the succession. Sao Tôn Hsang, *Sawbwa* of Manglün, died at Takut on the 30th March. This old Chief had become almost childish, and his wayward temper, combined with the fact that his word was absolute law to his own people, was a source of anxiety. His son and heir Sao Som assumed charge of the State pending his recognition by the Local Government. The progress of the war roused little interest among the Shans generally. Among the Kachins there was a recurrence of the uneasiness which had been shown at the beginning of the war and which manifested itself by an increase in violent crime. In the open season extra work was found for the Kachins on roads and the uneasiness soon passed away. The *Sawbwas* turned out their men and incurred considerable expense in guarding the roads and ferries leading into their States in order to intercept any bad characters coming from Siam. A meeting of the authorities of the Bhamo District and the Northern Shan States with the authorities of Yünnan took place as usual in January at Nawngma and, thanks to the unexpected energy of the leading Chinese official present, proved an unqualified success, forty-one cases on the Northern Shan States file being disposed of. Attempts to destroy the opium crop led to serious collision between Chinese troops and villagers in the Chinese Shan States across the frontier but with the declaration of independence of Yünnan the campaign against opium came to an end and incidents connected with the opium trade were responsible for most of the frontier troubles of the rest of the year. The failure of a Kokang trader to fulfil a contract for the sale of opium led to an incursion of armed Chinamen who terrorised the bazaar, killed one Chinese subject and wounded another, and only left when news arrived of the approach of a column of military police. Affairs were quiet on the East Manglün border and in the unadministered Wa country.

The strength of the battalion of military police remained unchanged and the usual escorts were furnished for the tours of civil officers. A column proceeded on special service to put a stop to the troubles in Möng Hsu described in paragraph 4 and another to Kokang on the occasion of the abovementioned disturbances. The sanctioned strength of the civil police was maintained and the conduct and discipline of the force improved. The total number of cases reported was 306, of which 102 ended in conviction, 2 in discharge or acquittal, 81 were classified as

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false or mistaken and 72 remained pending. The number of violent crimes increased from 5 to 11, of which 2 were robberies—one classified as false—and the rest murders or less serious offences against the person. The number of cattle-thefts reported was 35, of which 17 were classified as false or mistaken. The number of offences reported to the State Police of Hsipaw decreased from 320 to 290 and the value of property stolen from Rs. 23,775 to Rs. 8,102. There were ten violent crimes, the worst of which was the murder of three Indians sleeping in a hut in Hsum Hsai sub-State. Crime in Tawngpeng was very light. In South Hsenwi, there was a marked decrease in the crime reported to the State Police. Several instances of good work in the arrest of criminals by village officials and police were reported. The number of offences which came before the courts was 974; the number of persons apprehended increased by 315 to 1,810, of whom 1,159 were convicted. Forty-three violent crimes were reported, North Hsenwi heading the list as usual with 17, chiefly murders. One civil suit was filed in the Court of the Superintendent; the number filed in the courts of the Assistant Superintendents was less but the value increased.

The early and middle rains were abundant and well distributed, but the latter rains practically failed. The rice crop was good in all States and exceptionally good in South Hsenwi. During the rains of 1915, there was a shortage of rice, which reached very high prices. The year's tea crop in Hsipaw and Kokang was unfavourably affected by weather conditions, but the output from Tawngpeng was up to the average though prices ruled low. As in the Southern Shan States, the potato crop was good and realised very high prices. Cotton, tobacco and sugar-cane did well, but the opium crop was very poor and prices ruled abnormally high owing to the demand from China. The proposal of the Forest Settlement Officer to amalgamate the Namtu and Nam Kung Reserves near the premises of the Burma Mines Company, Limited, was accepted and the Panghai reserve with an area of 75 square miles was notified. The Burma Mines Company, Limited, in spite of difficulties caused by the war has made very considerable progress and is rapidly developing its valuable property. The total tonnage of charge smelted was 77,195 tons, of which 39,208 tons were metalliferous material. In the refinery 9,920 tons of refined lead and 86·15 tons of antimonial lead were produced and shipped Improvements to the railway continued and additional rolling-stock was procured. An electric plant was installed and brought nearly to the stage of operation. The Company's settlement at Namtu continued to expand and a number of new residential and other buildings were erected.

The expenditure on public works in Hsipaw State fell from Rs. 2·79 lakhs in 1914-15 to Rs. 1·68 lakh in consequence of the impossibility of obtaining an adequate staff for supervision of works. The most important works in progress were the Ta Tüngang bridge and improvements in Hsipaw town. The ferry over the Namtu river at Hsipaw was equipped with reinforced concrete masts. The Local Government sanctioned a scheme for the permanent appointment of a State engineer with a staff of subordinates seconded from the Government Public Works Department for all minor works and repairs in the State. In Tawngpeng State also the lack of establishment severely limited the amount of work accomplished, only Rs. 25,554 being spent out of a sum of Rs. 1·3 lakh deposited with the Public Works Department. Most of the money was spent on road construction and repair and minor works. In the other States much useful work was done in the repair of roads and the erection of permanent bridges. An epidemic of plague which broke out in Hsipaw in March 1915 lingered on till November and broke out again in March 1916. Considerable loss was caused by disturbance to trade, but the deaths were not numerous and the disease did not spread to any other State. In the States generally the excellent harvest and the absence of any serious losses from cattle disease made for prosperity and the year was remarkable for the large number of pagoda festivals celebrated The revenue of all the States was larger than that of the previous year and all, save Manglün, closed the year with a substantial balance.

There was no change in the number of hospitals and dispensaries. The number of outdoor patients increased by 1,115 to 39,338, while there was a decrease by 646 in the number of indoor patients treated. Outbreaks of small-

pox in September and May were reported in the vicinity of Namkham. During the year 13 new schools were brought on the register and four abolished. There was an improvement in attendance of 152 to 1,788, of whom 568 were girls. At a conference at Lashio certain decisions were reached for the training and supply of teachers, the increase of the inspectorial staff and the improvement of education generally.

Other Shan States.

7. In Möng Mit, the year was one of peace and progress. Excluding a loan of Rs. 5,000 from Government on account of agricultural advances the revenue of the year was Rs. 1,71,816 as compared with Rs. 1,70,698 (which included a contribution of Rs. 9,000 from Government) in the previous year. The total expenditure was Rs. 1,74,757 and the closing balance Rs. 74,778. The rainfall was moderate but badly distributed and the harvest indifferent. The timber trade continued to be stagnant. The volume of crime was almost the same as in the previous year. Attention is directed in the report to the extraordinary prevalence of gambling and the fact that the timber camps of the Bombay Burma Corporation, Limited, situated in an area entirely unprotected by police, swarm with bad characters from three districts. There was no increase in civil litigation. A sum of Rs. 24,974 was spent on public works. In the Kodaung Hill Tracts of the State the year passed peacefully though the rains were poor, the hill rice crop was spoiled by rain and unsaleable timber lay rotting in the jungle. The amount of Kachin tribute collected was more than in any previous year. The settlement of village boundaries continued and was nearly completed. The Kachin company of military police was completed. The two pending transfrontier cases were disposed of by the Deputy Commissioner of Bhamo at the annual meeting with Chinese officials. There are two very petty Shan States on the Chindwin river under the charge of the Deputy Commissioner of the Upper Chindwin District. In Hsawnghsup the crops were good and there were no frontier incidents. The riverine villages suffered from a bad outbreak of cholera. In Singkaling Khāmti the posting of a military police-force at the chief village during the open season restored the confidence of the Chief and his people who were very apprehensive of Kachin raids, and ensured the absence of frontier incidents.

(*ii*) *The Chin Hills.*

[*The Chin Hills proper, area approximately* 8,000 *square miles, population* 119,556 *; the Pakôkku Hill Tracts, area approximately* 2,200 *square miles, population* 17,128 *: Hill District of Arakan, area* 1,500 *square miles, population* 22,234 *: and tracts in the Upper Chindwin, Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts.*]

8. In the Chin Hills proper the year was uneventful and the behaviour of the inhabitants excellent, serious crime being practically non-existent. Experiments with the object of improving the cultivation of sugar-cane, oranges and cotton were continued. The ordinary staple crops were good, and the wheat crop was more successful than in the previous year. The improvement of village roads continued, a water-supply scheme at Haka was completed and a recreation ground at Falam in course of construction. Some deaths were caused by two local outbreaks of cholera which however did not spread. It was reported that more frequent intercourse with the plains had resulted in an increase of malaria among the Chins. The health and conduct of the Chin Hills Battalion of Military Police were good. In the Pakôkku Hill Tracts also the year was marked by peace and prosperity, only four offences under the Indian Penal Code being reported. In the Hill District of Arakan four minor raids, in which twelve persons in all were carried off, were made from unadministered territory. All the captives were recovered and the raids had no political significance, being made with the object of enforcing private claims. The tribes on the borders of the Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts gave no trouble. The unadministered territory between the Chin Hills and Arakan was the scene of a blood-thirsty raid by Shandus on a hamlet of Kamis,

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apparently in revenge for the slaughter of the chief of Sabaung and many of his men by Kamis ten years ago. A minor affair in the same unadministered area was the capture by Satawms of five inhabitants of Sate village and the murder of one of them, probably as a result of a territorial dispute. The Government took no action in regard to these affairs which were confined to unadministered territory. The border of the Pakôkku Hill Tracts was violated by a raid in which three persons were carried off by Chins from unadministered territory. This raid was punished by the immediate despatch of a small force of civil and military police, the arrest and deportation of the principal offenders, and the infliction of a fine on their village. The captives were released. The Superintendent of the Pakôkku Hill Tracts held a durbar in which he successfully settled all outstanding disputes between tribesmen on both sides of the administrative border. The proposal to take under administration the Somra tract adjoining the Upper Chindwin District was held in abeyance and British Officers were unable to enter the tract to enforce order. Peace was nevertheless on the whole well preserved. The principal chief of the tract shewed himself well disposed and it was anticipated that the friendly relations established would prove of value when settled administration was finally introduced.

(*iii*) *The Kachin Hills.*

[*The Putao District and tracts in the Myitkyina, Bhamo and Katha Districts.*]

9. The peace of the frontier districts was undisturbed and the year comparatively uneventful. Two of the leaders in the rebellion of the previous year in Myitkyina District were arrested and sentenced, one to death and the other to transportation for life. Only one leader of importance was at large when the year closed. The leader of the outbreak in Putao District, an irreconcileable who led an attack on Myitkyina as far back as 1892, was also arrested. The work of road-making by the Public Works Department was in abeyance but a considerable amount of improvement in communications was effected by the exertions of the civil officers in the various districts. In Putao District the civil and military police officers devoted as much time as possible to touring in their charges, several tracts hitherto unexplored were traversed and friendly relations established with the headmen and people. In the Putao District there were two cases of violent crime, in Myitkyina eight, in Bhamo seven and in Katha none; most of the cases reported were murders and none presented any features of unusual interest. Out of 71 criminal cases before the courts in Putao 64 were disposed of. A Burman youth was found guilty of pretending to be a public servant and collecting tribute from Kachin villages. In Myitkyina 79 cases were instituted as compared with 103 the previous year and 22 were pending at the close of the year. In Bhamo of 68 cases 63 were disposed of and in Katha 32 out of 40. In the former the number of cases remained small while in the latter it was higher than usual. In Putao an inter-village blood-feud which had been in progress for twenty-five years and responsible for an annual tale of murders was settled. In the same district an attempt was made to burn down a house as an item in the progress of a blood-feud said to be 180 years old. There was a decrease from the very high figures of the previous year in the number of civil suits instituted in Bhamo District but none of them either there or in other districts was of any special interest. There were no important variations in the amount of tribute collected. It was reported that the use of opium was becoming more common among the Kachins of the Katha District. A report on the forests in Putao District was prepared and the climate said to be favourable for the growth of rubber. Proceedings in connection with the constitution of a reserved forest were completed in Myitkyina. In the same district experiments were made with tea cultivation and an enquiry into the possibility of reviving the extinct trade in rubber was ordered. In Putao the existence of considerable deposits of hæmatite ore and of a local manufacture of iron was verified; old workings of silver with considerable deposits of lead tailings were discovered; and reports were received

of rich auriferous deposits in several of the rivers. Comparatively advanced methods of washing were said to be in use and the use of mercury for the separation of the precious metal not to be unknown. In Myitkyina the output of jadestone was 117,548 viss valued at Rs. 1·46 lakh as compared with 104,086 viss valued at Rs. 1·91 lakh the previous year. In the Putao District the work of issuing appointment orders to headmen was continued and four Chinese appointment orders were discovered and confiscated. In Myitkyina one headman was dismissed and sentenced to imprisonment for assaulting and torturing a Chinaman. The demarcation of village boundaries made progress throughout all districts. There was one boundary dispute in Putao, three in Myitkyina, four in Bhamo and two in Katha. Relations with tribes across the frontier were good and several important chiefs visited civil officers in the Putao District. It was by the goodwill of a trans-border chief that the outlawed leader of last year's rebellion in that district already referred to was arrested and handed over. There was only one case of collision between Kachins from opposite sides of the border. In Myitkyina there were no raids of any kind. Walawpum *Gam* a chief in the Hukawng Valley who was arrested and deported in the previous year for complicity in the Myitkyina rising was allowed to return to his village. No Chinese officials or soldiers crossed the frontier into Putao District and the only Chinamen met were traders whose attitude gave no cause for suspicion. Reports have been received of steps taken by the Chinese authorities to bring the Upper Salween Valley under control. The annual meeting of the authorities of Myitkyina District with Chinese frontier officials took place at a place called Simapa in China and passed off with great success, a satisfactory settlement being arrived at in all cases in which the parties were present. Some account of the conference between Chinese authorities and the officials of Bhamo District and the Northern Shan States which took place at Nawngma has already been given in paragraph 6 of this Report. Of Bhamo District cases 50 were taken up and settled and only 17 were left pending of which 5 were quite new. Relations were friendly and the success of the meeting very marked. The Chinese *Taoyin* showed his goodwill by arresting and making over a Shan-Burman outlaw who had flourished for years on cattle-lifting from the Bhamo District. The peace of the border was little disturbed by the declaration of independence by the province of Yünnan. Steps were taken to prevent any revolutionaries or bad characters fom entering China by any of the routes from British territory and caravan traffic proceeded without interruption.

Condition of the People.

10. In Lower Burma the rains were abundant and on the whole favourable. A certain amount of damage was caused by flood in some districts of the Pegu Division which are liable to an annual visitation from that calamity, and by the breach by high tides of embankments erected in the Arakan Division to protect rice-fields from the sea. Three days of unseasonable rain accompanied by cold northerly winds in December did a considerable amount of damage to the rice crops which were partly reaped and partly ripe for harvest at the time. In Upper Burma the character of the rains and the condition of the crops varied considerably from district to district. In the northern districts of the Mandalay Division the season was on the whole favourable. In the dry zone proper the general characteristics were heavy rains in the beginning of the season followed by a prolonged drought in the middle, while some districts did, and some did not, receive fairly plentiful showers in September and October. An abnormally high rise of the Irrawaddy River in August caused much damage to crops grown on islands and on lowlying lands along the banks. In the areas protected by major irrigation works the yield was on the whole satisfactory but smaller tanks suffered from breach of bunds at one time and a lack of water at another with the result that the crops which depended on irrigation from this source were on the whole poor. Prices of staples showed a general recovery from the dislocation caused in the previous year by the outbreak of the war. In the autumn of 1915 the operations of

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speculators in rice forced the price of unhusked rice to a very high level and the holders of stocks from the previous harvest realised handsome profits. After harvest prices naturally fell considerably but the harvest price was in most districts much higher than in 1915 and approximated to the normal. The price of wheat was slightly above normal, that of sessamum steady, that of groundnut nearly normal. A great improvement was manifested in the price of cotton which had suffered most severely by the change of conditions caused by the war though normal figures have not yet been attained. As a result of the drop of the previous year a great reduction in the area planted with this crop took place. A considerable reduction in the quantity of chillies imported from Madras due to the scarcity of shipping caused a big enhancement in the price of the local product, the chief centre of the cultivation of which is in the Meiktila and Kyauksè Districts. As a result of good crops and better prices the condition of the agricultural population of the Lower Province has improved and may be considered generally satisfactory. An increased immigration from the districts of the dry zone provided a sufficiency of labour for agricultural operations despite the diminution of the number of Indian labourers available. Two poor seasons in succession have not been without effect on the population of the dry zone districts but there has in no case been actual disaster and the power of resistance has surpassed expectation. Work has been ound on the canals, at cutch boiling and at improvement of village tanks, reserves of live stock have been realised, and resort has been had to the time-honoured remedy of emigration to Lower Burma. Since the opening of the Môn Canals in the Minbu District the tenants of older irrigated lands have been able to secure a great improvement in the terms on which they cultivate. Labour for rubber plantations and mining continues in insufficient supply and the Local Government imported a large number of Chinese from the Straits Settlements for work in the wolfram mines of the Tavoy District. The health of the people generally was not so good as in the previous year. A severe epidemic of cholera raged throughout many districts of Upper and Lower Burma, plague caused many deaths in the towns and there was an increase in the death-rate.

CHAPTER II.

Administration of the Land.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Land Revenue Administration of Burma during the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Land Records Administration Report of Burma for the year ended the 30th June 1916.
Agricultural Statistics of India, Volume I.

Realization of the Revenue.

Demand, collections, remissions and outstandings.

11. Exclusive of the amounts to be credited to cess and irrigation, the aggregate land revenue demand for the year was Rs. 294·21 lakhs as compared with Rs. 291·41 lakhs in 1914-15. The introduction of enhanced rates of assessment in the Bassein and Toungoo Districts more than accounted for the whole of the increase of Rs. 2·80 lakhs. In Lower Burma conditions were not much more favourable than those of the previous year. In Upper Burma the rains opened well, but in most parts of the dry zone there was serious deficiency later, while an abnormal rise of the Irrawaddy in July caused much damage in the districts on its banks. In the Arakan Division there was some extension of cultivation in the Akyab and Sandoway Districts, although damage from flooding on riverside and coastal lands in the former district reduced the corresponding increase in demand. In Kyaukpyu a considerable area was abandoned on account of difficulties experienced the previous year. There was an increase in the demand from the whole division of about Rs. 7,000. In the Pegu Division the annual floods in the Insein and Hanthawaddy Districts caused rather more damage than usual and, despite a small increase in the assessed area, the demand was less. In Pegu District revision of the rents due under waste land grants and extension of cultivation produced a small increase. There was some extension also in Tharrawaddy and Prome, but in the latter district where the early rains were poor, increased fallow assessments produced a small decline in the demand. The demand for the whole division was Rs. 86·13 lakhs as compared with Rs. 86·18 lakhs in 1914-15. In the Irrawaddy Division the demand from the Bassein District increased by Rs. 2·15 lakhs owing to the introduction of new settlement rates and recalculation of areas. In the rest of the division the demand was practically the same as in the previous year. There was a small general extension of cultivation, but the consequent increases in the demand in the Henzada and Myaungmya Districts were counterbalanced by decreases in Ma-ubin and Pyapôn, where rather more damage than usual was done by floods, and where a larger area than usual was left fallow owing to the difficulty in obtaining loans for working expenses. In the Toungoo District of the Tenasserim Division some previously cultivated land was abandoned, and other land remained unassessed on account of crop destruction by floods, but the introduction of revised settlement rates raised the total demand from the district by Rs 2·11 lakhs. Amherst and Thatôn suffered much less than usual from floods and few areas were exempted completely from assessment. There was a rise of Rs. 89,424 in the demand from the two districts. There were small increases also in Tavoy and Mergui. In the Magwe Division the season was good for rice cultivation in Thayetmyo but the rains too heavy for upland crops. In Minbu and Magwe early rains were irregular and early rice crop poor, but irrigated areas in Minbu did well, and in Magwe the main rice crop was the best for several years. In Pakôkku the season was poor, but not so poor as that of 1914-15 There was an increase of Rs. 43,908 in the demand from the division as a whole. The total demand from Mandalay Division was larger by Rs. 28,327 than in 1914-15. The rains were favourable in all districts and the only damage done to crops was by an unusually high rise of the Irrawaddy in August. The dry zone districts of the Sagaing Division all suffered from

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deficiency in the middle and late rains, with damage from floods in addition in the riverine tracts of Sagaing. The previous year was poor but this year's demand fell by a further sum of Rs. 86,892. Conditions in the Upper Chindwin District were distinctly better than in 1914-15 and the demand was Rs. ·25 lakh higher. In the Meiktila Division the aggregate demand fell by Rs. 2·59 lakhs. All four districts contributed to the decrease. In Meiktila the demand was 44 per cent. less. There was an almost complete failure of the middle and late rains, and widespread failure of crops was met by a general reduction of assessments over the greater part of the district. In Yamèthin abnormal floods in the Pyinmana Subdivision were added to shortage of rain in the dry zone. Myingyan suffered similarly from lack of rain in the later part of the season and from floods due to the unusual rise of the Irrawaddy. In Kyauksè the season was better than in 1914-15, but the land revenue demand was smaller owing to the reduced share of the consolidated land revenue and irrigation rate credited to the former head.

The total amount of current land revenue remitted was Rs. 5 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·85 lakhs in the previous year. The principal reason for remissions was the destruction of crops by floods in the Hanthawaddy, Insein and Ma-ubin Districts. In the first two districts damage was greater than in the previous year but the total remissions in Ma-ubin were reduced by more than half from Rs 2·80 lakhs to Rs. 1·23 lakhs. Amherst and Thatôn, in which districts over a lakh of rupees was remitted in 1914-15 suffered little damage, and remissions were reduced to below Rs. 6,000. In Upper Burma, with the exception of Rs. 28,647 remitted in Yamèthin owing to the failure of crops from deficient or untimely rainfall, agricultural calamities accounted for no large remissions of revenue. The failure of harvests in Meiktila and other dry zone districts was dealt with by non-assessment or by general reduction of assessments. The amount of revenue remitted as irrecoverable in Lower Burma was Rs. 72,162 as against Rs. 63,158 in 1914-15. In those districts where the harvest was least successful a good deal of temporarily occupied land was abandoned after the removal of such crop as it produced and the cultivators disappeared before the revenue could be recovered. The amount remitted on account of erroneous assessment was Rs. 19,097 as against Rs. 25,339 in the previous year.

The total collections of current land revenue were larger by nearly Rs. 5·75 lakhs than those of 1914-15. The amount outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 48,243 as against Rs. 48,843 at the end of the previous year. The difficulties which began in 1914-15, owing to the low price of unhusked rice and the restriction of credit facilities, were not so serious in the year of report, but were not wholly absent.

Revenue proceedings and coercive processes.

12. The amount of revenue for the realization of which application was made for the issue of process was Rs. 14·77 lakhs, an abnormally high figure, but less by Rs. 3·81 lakhs than that for the previous year. The amount realized was Rs. 12·46 lakhs or 84·4 per cent. as compared with 79 per cent. in 1914-15. Warrants of arrest increased by 1,942, the number of persons arrested rose from 2,347 to 2,372 and the number committed to jail from 41 to 307. Although the number of warrants of attachment of property was rather smaller than in 1914-15 the number of sales of property rose from 2,806 to 3,487. The number of persons arrested and the number committed to prison were disproportionately large in the Bassein District.

Surveys.

Surveys by Imperial Agency.

13. Topographical survey operations were continued by No. 10 Party of the Survey of India which surveyed 1,705 square miles in Upper Burma on the 1-inch, 2-inch and half-inch scales in the Myitkyina and Katha Districts and in the unadministered territory between the Mali Hka and N'mai Hka rivers lying to the north of the Myitkyina District. The party also surveyed 1,152 square miles on the 1-inch scale in the Tavoy and Mergui Districts of Lower Burma. Triangulation was carried out in the Putao District of Upper Burma from Laza to Putao

with a view to the detail survey being extended next cold weather. The programme of No. 11 Party originally only consisted of the detail survey on 4-inch and 2-inch scales of 406 square miles of reserved forests adjoining Maymyo but in January urgent surveys of wolfram-tracts in Tavoy and Mergui Districts were suddenly added to the programme and the party by working into July managed to complete 1,359 square miles in these districts on the 1-inch scale, also the advance triangulation of 580 square miles. A detachment of No. 15 (Survey) Party was employed in the Akyab and Kyaukpyu Districts of the Arakan Division, Lower Burma, in revising the southern connection of the Manipur Meridional Series of season 1901-02. The revision, which necessitated the taking of observations at four principal stations, was completed and two Astronomical latitudes and two Azimuths were also observed. Tidal operations were continued by No. 16 (Survey) Party at the ports of Rangoon and Moulmein.

The tidal observatories were inspected and the tide-gauges were cleaned, adjusted and left in good working order. The Magnetic Observatory at Toungoo was visited by No. 18 (Survey) Party for taking magnetic observations for the comparison of instruments.

Surveys by Provincial agency; extension and revision surveys.

14. During the year special staffs were employed for the conduct of demarcation and survey operations in connection with wolfram mining in the Thatôn and Tavoy Districts and an oil-bearing area in the Thayetmyo District. In Thatôn, in the hills east of the railway between Thatôn and Martaban an area of 23·51 square miles was demarcated into 14 blocks by stout wooden posts bearing the initials of the licensees and protected by stone cairns, at a cost of Rs. 832. No geographical connections were attempted. In Tavoy District operations begun in the previous year were renewed under the charge of a new officer and successfully completed. The work extended over 1,500 square miles of very hilly and heavily wooded country and consisted in the boundary survey of 25 scattered mining leases with a total area of 26,220 acres. The accuracy of the survey was assured by geographical connections to trigonometrical stations of the Survey of India at 18 different points on the boundaries of concessions. The concession plans drawn to the scale of 8 inches to the mile were completed and printed. The total expenditure was Rs. 27,364. In Thayetmyo District an officer was placed on special duty for the survey and demarcation of a newly discovered oil-field in the vicinity of Minhla. A geographically connected traverse survey on the scale of 16 inches to the mile was made of the area which was subsequently divided into 46 blocks demarcated by 61 pillars of reinforced concrete protected by stone cairns. The cost of the survey and demarcation was Rs. 4,765. Revision surveys by special agency were carried out in the Bassein, Myaungmya and Pyapôn Districts under the supervision of an officer on special duty and in Prome and Sagaing of the Superintendent of Land Records. The area re-surveyed in the first three districts was 485 square miles, of which 193,657 acres were occupied. Numerous *kwins* which were too large for administrative purposes were subdivided into smaller units. The total cost of the operations was Rs. 59,099. In Sagaing District an area of a little over 100 square miles, of which 51,667 acres were occupied, was re-surveyed at a cost of Rs. 11,165. In Prome 23 *kwins* of unwieldy size with a total occupied area of 24,929 acres were subdivided into 55 smaller units by a small special staff at a cost of Rs. 858. The recess work of the field extension surveys executed in the previous year in the Myaungmya, Henzada and Hanthawaddy Districts was completed and the maps, where necessary, printed.

Town and Fishery surveys and surveys of leased areas.

15. The mapping and area work of the previous year's town surveys in the districts of Bassein, Toungoo, Yamèthin, Meiktila and Kyauksè was completed in the recess. Proposed surveys in the Yamèthin, Kyauksè and Upper Chindwin Districts had to be postponed as funds were not available. In Rangoon Town 2,761 acres were re-surveyed. The reduction and final preparation of the maps of the fisheries surveyed during the previous year in the Myaungmya District were completed and the maps printed. Surveys of lands, a grant of which has been applied for, were conducted in four districts of Lower Burma only. In

CHAP. II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

Mergui a large number of surveys remained to be carried out in consequence of the failure of applicants to demarcate the lands they wanted. In Tavoy 15 out of 55 applications were pending at the close of the year for the same reason. In Amherst there was a large decrease in the number of applications due to hopes of a rapid development of the citronella industry being disappointed. In Kyaukpyu a surveyor was appointed to each township and 502 acres were surveyed. The fees realized were generally more than the cost of survey.

Settlements.

Progress of Settlements.

16. With effect from 1st November 1915 No. 6 Settlement Party, which had completed the work allotted to it, was disbanded and at the close of the year five parties were at work. Operations were carried on in nine districts over an area of 12,971 square miles, of which 4,470,000 acres were occupied. In four districts, comprising a gross area under settlement of 3,735 square miles and an occupied area of 1,455,000 acres, field work had finished before 1st July 1915 and settlement work was confined to the compilation of statistics and report. In Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Prome, Magwe and Sagaing Districts soil classification and connected operations were completed over a gross area of 3,157 square miles comprising an occupied area of 797,000 acres. The third settlements of the Henzada and Tharrawaddy Districts and of the Pegu and part of the Thanatpin Townships of the Pegu District were completed and reports submitted during the year; the settlement operations in Sandoway District were completed, but the submission of the report was delayed till the completion of the work in Kyaukpyu. The settlement of the Akyab District was begun in 1913, of the Kyaukpyu and Prome Districts in 1914 and of the Magwe and Sagaing Districts in 1915.

Financial results and expenditure.

17. The only new settlement sanctioned during the year was that of Henzada District. The expiring land revenue demand was Rs. 14·09 lakhs per year and the demand sanctioned by the present settlement is Rs. 18·27 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 4·18 lakhs or 29 64 per cent. Owing to the application of intermediate rates, and to the fact that in the Myanaung Subdivision the new rates do not come into force till July 1917, the immediate enhancement will be much less. The total expenditure on the settlement parties at work was Rs. 4·02 lakhs. The cost of operations in settlements actually completed was Rs. 100 per square mile of total area or about 5 annas per occupied acre.

Land Records.

Area under supplementary survey.

18. There was a decrease of 181 square miles in the rural area under supplementary survey. There was no change in the area in the majority of districts. In Bassein the revision settlement of 1913—15, including three new circles, was introduced. In Henzada an increase resulted from extension surveys by the local staff in a compact block of cultivation formerly outside supplementary survey. In Myaungmya a tract which was re-surveyed by a special party in 1914-15 was brought under supplementary survey. These increases were in areas where the ratio of expenditure to assessments justifies the supplementary survey work. An apparent decrease in Mandalay District was due to the fact that when Mandalay District and Town charges were formed, a correct adjustment of the rural areas in the town and district charges was not made. The decrease in Yamèthin District was due to the introduction of fixed assessments over an area of 262 square miles and the exclusion of forest reserve areas. The Land Records Department was responsible for the assessment of land revenue and cess in rural areas amounting to Rs. 331·56 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 3·42 lakhs during the year. The urban area under supplementary survey decreased by one square mile. Variations took place in only a few districts. The decrease in Henzada was due to the fact that Zalun, Daunggyi and Aingthabyu ceased to be towns under the Act. The total land revenue and rent and land rates, derived from this source amounted to nearly

Rs. 12 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 40,582. Of this increase Rs. 23,019 was contributed by Rangoon, resulting mainly from the issue of new leases and the assessment of encroachments of which about 250 were detected and reported during the year. In Akyab the town maps were found to be out of date and assessments were made on measurements of the actual area occupied carried out on the ground and recorded in a field book.

Cost of supplementary survey.

19. The total cost of supplementary survey was Rs. 15·49 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 4,506 on the figures recorded in 1914-15. This increase was mainly due to greater expenditure on supervision though there was a slight increase in the cost of the subordinate field staff. There was a reduction of Rs. 5,358 in the expenditure on contingencies and supplies. The question of the reduction of the expenditure on binding charges has been carefully considered, suggestions of possibilities of saving have been adopted and in all districts binding is now done on economical lines and at reasonable cost. The cost of the department was 4·42 per cent. of the revenue assessed, that is ·03 per cent. less than the figures of the previous year. The decrease was the more satisfactory as during the four previous years there had been a progressive decline amounting to ·75 per cent. The effect of the season was shown in the reduced cost throughout the Tenasserim Division. In Meiktila District large fallow areas and remissions almost doubled the percentage of cost. Expenses tended to rise throughout the Upper Burma districts where the rains were poor.

Training of Officers.

20. The number of pupils on the rolls of the 18 Government Survey Schools in the Province at the close of the year was 244 or seven fewer than on the corresponding date of the previous year. Forty-six per cent. of the pupils paid no fees. The educational qualifications of those admitted to the schools were good. The number of stipends of the monthly value of Rs. 10 each allotted and held was 140 and the total expenditure on them Rs. 15,586. At the examination in April 1916 the candidates from Government Survey Schools who obtained passes in surveying, arithmetic and revenue numbered respectively 99, 108 and 174, or 43, 51 and 80 per cent. of the total number presented in each of these subjects. The condition of several schools, chiefly in Lower Burma, was reported to be unsatisfactory. During the year there were 322 apprentice surveyors under training. The prescribed examinations were held in the majority of districts where apprentices had qualified. Some 169 candidates appeared and 116 qualified and received certificates while those who failed were sent back for further training. Thirty-two apprentices were removed from the district list. Some 202 surveyors joined the staff from the schools but service in some districts was unpopular while in others there was an excess of men. There were 124 permanent appointments to the staff of surveyors holding certificates of competency. The annual preliminary training of the subordinate staff in field work was carried out in most districts. Two probationary Assistant Superintendents appointed at the end of 1914 completed their survey course and received certificates of qualification. Of the three appointed in 1913 two were examined in land records work and one received a certificate of qualification; an extension of the period of training was granted to the third. Two probationers were appointed and began their training in survey during the year.

Transfers of land.

21. The statistics relating to transfers of land were collected during the year of report over 17,272,840 acres of occupied land, as compared with an area of 17,244,735 acres over which similar statistics were collected in 1914-15. The area sold decreased by 64,000 acres from 494,000 to 430,000 acres, and the area mortgaged increased by 138,000 acres from 519,000 to 657,000 acres. The total area held under non-usufructuary mortgage at the close of the year increased by 398,000 acres from 1,720,000 to 2,118,000 acres. As compared with the area to which the statistics relate, the area transferred by sale represents 2·5 per cent. of the total area, as against 2·9 per cent. in the previous year; the area mortgaged represents 3·8 per cent. of the total area, as compared with 3 per cent. in 1914-15. There is a steady increase in the area of land under

CHAP. II.—ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

non-usufructuary mortgage. The percentages of the past three years are 8·3, 10 and 12·3, a rise of almost four per cent. in two years. In sales the rate per acre rose from Rs. 60 to Rs. 62 while in mortgages it fell from Rs. 45 to Rs. 41. The area of land redeemed rose from 189,000 acres in the previous year to 231,000 acres. The conditions in Lower and Upper Burma differ so widely that a more correct view is obtained if the figures for each of these areas are examined separately. In Lower Burma the area sold represents 4·2 per cent. of the area to which the statistics relate, and the area mortgaged represents 7·0 per cent; the corresponding figures in the previous year were 4·8 and 5·4 per cent. respectively. The total area under non-usufructuary mortgage in Lower Burma was 22·2 per cent. of the area to which the statistics relate, as compared with 18 per cent. in the previous year. The sales in Upper Burma are insignificant and as a non-usufructuary mortgage is in much less favour than a usufructuary mortgage, the returns do not permit of any definite conclusion. Sales of over 25,000 acres of land took place in each of the following districts, Pyapôn, Pegu, Hanthawaddy, Bassein, Myaungmya, Thatôn and Akyab. Sales of over 5,000 acres were reported from four districts of Upper Burma, Mandalay, Kyauksè, Yamèthin and Shwebo. Non-usufructuary mortgages of over 25,000 acres took place in eleven districts, Pyapôn, with 87,629 acres, followed by Tharrawaddy, Pegu, Hanthawaddy, Myaungmya, Ma-ubin, Thatôn, Insein, Bassein, Akyab and Henzada. In Upper Burma, Mandalay alone reported the mortgage of more than 2,000 acres. The average price of land sold was higher than in the previous year and the difference showed a considerable range in different districts but the general rate of increase was from four to six rupees per acre. An exceptional rise of Rs. 28 in the case of Insein was due to the inclusion in the figures of statistics of sales of suburban land in the vicinity of Rangoon intended for conversion into building sites. In Thatôn, Prome, Ma-ubin and Henzada there was a fall in the prices realised. Price depends on the fertility of the land and the market value of unhusked rice. In the year of report the crop was better and the harvest price on the whole higher than in 1914 and this explains the improvement in values shown by the statistics. The mortgage value appears to be less subject to variation than the sale value. Fourteen out of the 16 main rice producing districts show a decline of from Re. 1 per acre in Akyab to Rs. 13 per acre in Thatôn District; the usual fall runs in these districts from Rs. 3 to Rs. 8 per acre. A marked rise in the mortgage value of land in Tavoy and Mergui Districts was probably due to the steady increase of population caused by the mines, but local conditions are peculiar and any inferences perforce uncertain. Prices and mortgage values in Upper Burma shew much greater variations than in Lower Burma, owing to the great local differences in fertility and variations in the crops raised; but as in Lower Burma prices tend to rise. The area placed under non-usufructuary mortgage was less than 8,000 acres in the whole of Upper Burma and no conclusion can be drawn from statistics having reference to an area so small.

Waste Lands.

Grants and leases for cultivation.

22. The area of land granted or leased for cultivation decreased by 1,813 acres from 7,642 to 5,829 acres. Leases for rubber cultivation were issued in the districts of Insein, Thatôn, Amherst, Tavoy and Mergui. No large area was leased in any one case. Grants for ordinary rice cultivation were issued only in special circumstances rendering the conferment of title desirable; and their number was small, except in Kyaukpyu. Even there the total was very little more than half that granted in 1914-15. In Sandoway a lease of 197 acres was given for the reclamation of a mangrove swamp. Leases continued to be issued for new occupation in the special lease areas of Hanthawaddy and Insein, but owing to the recent curtailment of these areas the number was comparatively small. In Minbu several leases were given of small areas of land irrigated by a new distributary of the Man Canal. In Myitkyina an area of 199 acres was leased on special terms for a dairy farm.

23. The area granted for the erection of religious edifices decreased by 28 acres from 207 to 179 acres. The total area granted free of revenue for public purposes was 39 acres, as against 66 acres in 1914-15. Grants were made for schools in Meiktila and Yamèthin Districts and the remainder was made up of areas of a few acres in each case granted for burial grounds, and of small areas for the construction of rest-houses, tanks and wells. Only 384 acres were granted or leased as an appanage of the office of headman ("*thugyi-sa*" land) as against 590 acres in 1914-15. The allotments were generally small. The addition to the total value of assignments of land revenue was Rs. 802, or Rs. 177 less than in the previous year. There were no specially large assignments. The figures correspond generally to the areas newly granted as "*thugyi-sa*" land in Upper Burma and as granted free of revenue for religious and public purposes, but from several districts the exemption from revenue of land used for unremunerative public purposes, as distinct from the grant of Government land free of revenue, was reported. The total value of the assignments of land revenue at the end of the year was Rs. 57,652 as against Rs. 56,848 at the end of 1914-15.

Revenue-free grants of land and assignments of land revenue.

Government Estates and Wards' Estates.

24. The character of the land tenures in Burma is explained in paragraph 39 *et seq.* of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12. Apart from Government lands of the kind therein described there are no Government estates in the special sense of particular cultivated areas managed by Government after the fashion of a private landlord. There are no wards' estates.

Revenue and Rent-paying Classes.

25. The area occupied by agriculturists was 14,747,699 acres, an increase of 111,653 acres over the area so held in the previous year. The adoption of the surveyor's charge as the unit for the classification of resident and non-resident non-agriculturists has in many districts so altered the returns that comparison of the figures of resident and non-resident non-agriculturists with those of previous years would serve no useful purpose. Comparison is only possible between the areas in the hands of landlords and peasant proprietors respectively. The total area in the hands of people who let their land was 2,525,141 acres as compared with 2,512,677 acres in the previous year, an increase of 12,464 acres, about one-tenth of the increase in the area held by agriculturists. Agriculturists occupied 85·38 per cent. of the area covered by the statistics and non-agriculturists 14·61 per cent. practically the same proportions as in 1914-15. The figures quoted above relate to the whole Province. The statistics for Lower Burma shew the agriculturist there in a much less favourable position. In Lower Burma, including Thayetmyo District, agriculturists occupied 7,331,080 acres or 78·8 per cent. and non-agriculturists 1,973,852 acres or 21·2 per cent. of the total area. The proportion of land held by non-agriculturists was highest in the districts of Hanthawaddy, Pyapôn, Insein, Ma-ubin, Pegu, Toungoo and Myaungmya, ranging from 43 per cent. in the first to 21 per cent. in the lastnamed. In Upper Burma the area owned by resident non-agriculturists was only 57,393 acres short of the area owned by non-resident non-agriculturists. Landlords held only about 7 per cent. of the occupied area. The districts in which the largest areas were so held were Lower Chindwin, Minbu, Mandalay, Yamèthin and Kyaukse, in which rice is largely grown and irrigation practised and in which capital is attracted by the certainty of return.

Area held by agriculturists.

26. The area let at full rents was 3,153,615 acres, an increase of nearly 20,000 acres over the total of the previous year. Assuming that all the land held by non-agriculturists was let 628,474 acres were let by owners classed as agriculturists. The average rent paid per acre increased from Rs. 10·32 to Rs. 12·29 and the total increase for the Province was Rs. 63·98 lakhs, from Rs. 3,23·69

Tenancies.

CHAP. II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

lakhs to Rs. 3,87·67 lakhs. The reasons for the increase were that the season was favourable in the chief rent-paying areas and landlords had not to give a rebate as in 1914-15, and that harvest prices were better. Landlords received the full rents agreed on and these were, on a cash basis, more valuable. Although the tenants paid more produce rent, they could do so without inconvenience, owing to the improvement in the value of the produce of their lands. Prices for unhusked rice were very steady throughout the year and holders were in a position to realize without any serious loss. In only three districts in Upper Burma, Yamèthin, Mandalay and Minbu, did the total payments of rent exceed a lakh of rupees. There was an increase of about two thousand, from 25,103 to 27,152, in the number of tenants who had rented their land continuously for five years or more, and of nearly four thousand, from 165,790 to 169,718, who had rented their holdings continuously for less than that period. The number of holdings which had been let continuously for five years or over increased from 68,038 to 73,948 and the number let continuously for less than five years was 111,873 as compared with 111,915 in the previous year. Opinions differ as to whether an increase of land revenue after a revised settlement has been followed by a raising of rents. From Minbu District it is reported that landlords in the Man area now realise that rack-renting is impossible, and that large areas formerly left fallow as the parties could not come to terms were recently let on reasonable and acceptable terms.

CHAPTER III.

PROTECTION.

REFERENCES :—

Report on the Police Administration of Burma for the year 1915.
Report on the Rangoon Town Police for the year 1915.
Resolution on the Reports on Village Administration in Burma for the year 1915.
Report on the Measures adopted for the Extermination of Wild Animals and Poisonous Snakes in Burma for the year 1915.
Reports on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Burma for the year 1915.
Report on the Prison Administration of Burma for the year 1915.
Reports on the Administration of Civil Justice in Burma for the year 1915.
Note on the Working of the Registration Department in Burma for the year 1915.
Report on the Working of the Indian Companies Act in Burma for the year 1915-16.
Report on the Working of the Rangoon Municipality for the year 1915-16.
Resolution reviewing the Reports on the Working of Municipalities in Burma during the year 1915-16.
Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Burma (Buildings and Roads Branch), excluding Irrigation, for the year 1915-16.
Administration Report of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon for the year 1915-16.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of Burma with Foreign Countries and Indian Ports for the official year 1915-16, Part III, Shipping.
Report on the Maritime Trade and Customs Administration of Burma for the official year 1915-16.
Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India with the British Empire and Foreign Countries, Volume II.
Annual Statement of Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India.
Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes I, III, and IV.
Report on Government Steamers, Vessels and Launches in Burma for the year 1915-16.

Legislative Authority.

The history and constitution of the Legislative Authority of the Province are described in paragraphs 103 to 106 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Course of Legislation.

Work of Legislative Council.

27. The Burma Medical Bill referred to in last year's report passed into law as Act No. I of 1915 during the present year. Two Bills were also introduced into Council during the year, *viz.*, the Burma Prohibition of Inoculation and Licensing of Vaccinators Amendment Bill, 1915, and the Burma Ferries Amendment Bill, 1915, but these Bills did not become law until after the close of the year of report.

The Burma Medical Act (No. I of 1915) was enacted with two objects. The first is to provide for the registration of duly qualified medical practitioners and the second is to subject practitioners so registered to the disciplinary control of a Medical Council. The registration of practitioners will enable the public to ascertain who are duly qualified in their district, and will afford some protection to the medical profession against persons who are not duly qualified. The Medical Council is to consist of nine members, five to be elected by the registered practitioners resident in Burma and four, including the President, to be nominated by the Local Government. The Council will have full control over the Registrar to be appointed and an appeal lies to it from any decision of the Registrar with regard to refusal to register an applicant. The Council also have power to strike off the register a person who has been convicted of a cognizable offence or who

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

has been found guilty by the Council of infamous conduct in any professional respect. But an appeal from the decision of the Council is allowed to the Local Government. The qualifications necessary for registration are laid down in the Schedule to the Act and the Local Government on the report of the Medical Council is given power by section 15 to alter the Schedule as occasion may arise.

General Acts affecting Burma.

28. The undermentioned General Acts affecting Burma were passed by the Governor-General in Council during the year :—

General Acts of 1915.

XI.—The Repealing and Amending Act, 1915.
XII.—The Indian Soldiers (Litigation) Act, 1915.
XIV.—The Enemy Trading Act, 1915.
XV.—The Inland Steam-vessels (Amendment) Act, 1915.

General Acts of 1916.

I.—The Indian Trusts (Amendment) Act, 1916.
II.—The Defence of India (Amendment) Act, 1916.
III.—The Foreigners' (Trial by Court-martial) Act, 1916.
IV.—The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1916.
V.—The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1916.
VI.—The Indian Ports (Amendment) Act, 1916.
VII.—The Indian Medical Degrees Act, 1916.
VIII.—The Presidency Banks (Amendment) Act, 1916.
IX.—The Indian Paper Currency (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1916.

Ordinances of the Governor-General.

The undermentioned Ordinances affecting Burma were made and promulgated by the Governor-General under section 72 of the Government of India Act, 1915

Ordinances of 1915.

II.—The Indian Soldiers (Litigation) Ordinance, 1915.
III.—The Defence of India Ordinance, 1915.

Ordinances of 1916.

I.—The Indian Paper Currency (Amendment) Ordinance, 1916.
II.—The Dutiable Goods and Salt Ordinance, 1916.
III.—The Foreigners' (Trial by Court-martial) Ordinance, 1916.

All these Acts and Ordinances came fully into force during the year with the exception of the Indian Income-tax (Amendment), Act, 1915, which, though it received the assent of the Governor-General on the 8th March 1916, came into operation on the 1st of April 1916, *i.e.*, just after the close of the year. Sections 3 to 11 of the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915, referred to in the Report of the preceding year, have been brought into operation during the year of report in four districts of the Province of Burma, namely, Rangoon Town, Amherst, Yamèthin and Mandalay.

Regulations affecting Burma.

29. Only one Regulation affecting Burma, namely, the Arakan Hill District Laws Regulation, 1916, was enacted during the year. This Regulation was made to declare and amend the law applicable in the Hill District of Arakan.

30. The Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, was extended to all the Shan States, the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, was extended to the Northern Shan States, and the Indian Petroleum Act, 1899, was extended to the Northern Shan States and the States of Hsamonghkam and Yawnghwe in the Southern Shan States.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION. Extension of Enactments to Shan States.

Police.

31. Excluding gazetted officers the sanctioned strength of the civil police in Burma, not including the Rangoon Town Police, was 1,363 officers and 14,357 men. The actual strength was 1,315 officers and 13,606 men leaving a deficiency of 48 officers and 751 men. In the previous year the shortage amounted to 39 officers and 1,090 men. There was a net increase of the permanent establishment during the year of 2 sub-inspectors, 6 head constables and 29 constables. Owing to want of work and poverty there was less difficulty in obtaining recruits and in many districts the margin between the sanctioned and the actual police strength was appreciably diminished. A recruiting party was sent out during the year in the Mandalay District, but opinions as to the success of its operations vary. The shortage of officers was due to the fact that out of a total sanctioned strength of 95 officers at the Provincial Police Training School there were on the rolls at the close of the year only 47. The cost of the police payable from Imperial and Provincial funds increased from Rs. 60·62 lakhs in 1914 to Rs. 62 lakhs in 1915. This increased expenditure of Rs. 1·38 lakh was caused by the approximation of the actual to the sanctioned strength, by the appointment during 1915 of the additional officers sanctioned in the previous year and by the grant of an allowance to Indian constables and head constables whose staple diet consists of wheat products. The cost of the police paid from other than Imperial or Provincial funds was Rs. 1·87 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·73 lakh in 1914. The increase was caused by the payment in 1915 of certain arrears due on account of rent of quarters of the railway police and by the payment of travelling allowance on a new scale. The cost of the additional police employed under section 15 of the Police Act was Rs. 3·01 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 1·42 lakh was due to the employment of additional police in Pegu and Hanthawaddy Districts and the quartering of a punitive police force in Shwebo District.

Civil Police: strength, recruitment and cost.

32. The number of officers and men who were dismissed or removed was 17 and 452 respectively as against 17 and 496 in 1914. Of these 12 officers and 225 men were dismissed after being convicted of a criminal offence. The number of officers and men punished departmentally rose from 218 and 1,275 in 1914 to 281 and 1,729 in 1915. The increase was in part accounted for by the fact that what is known as the "black mark" system of punishment was in more general operation and that every "black mark" awarded was reckoned as a major punishment. The number of special promotions for good work was 46 as against 27 in the previous year; of these 14 were granted in Myaungmya and 6 in Mandalay Districts. The rewards granted increased by 555. Out of 2,856 officers and men rewarded, 1,457 were rewarded departmentally for good work. Three cases of violence to persons involving four constables, one of wrongful confinement, one of wrongful confinement with violence in which six constables were concerned, and four of wrongful behaviour to persons not involving violence, were proved against the police during the year. In the last four cases nine police-officers were concerned. In all cases the offenders were suitably punished. The King's Police Medal was awarded to five members of the Burma Police during the year. The number of desertions fell from 236 to 156, the number of resignations without pension from 1,111 to 987 and the number of dismissals and discharges from 808 to 664. The number of literate subordinate officers and men was 12,860 or 86 per cent. of the actual strength of 14,921. The number of constables other than recruits who went through a course of training was 1,840, of whom 94 per cent. qualified. The number of recruits under training was 2,182, of whom 1,253 appeared for examination and 1,176 passed. The number of casualties before the completion of the course of training was 363 and 14

Conduct, education and training.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

recruits were discharged for failure to pass the examination. In many districts training depôts were open for six months only and only recruits were trained, as it was found impossible to spare constables from their regular duties for the purpose. Officers to the number of 1,180 went through a course of revolver practice and 8,379 men and 1,292 recruits were put through the annual course of musketry in which the figure of merit attained was 65. No Assistant Superintendents of Police were in the Provincial Police Training School at the close of the year, the three under instruction at the beginning having been posted to duty before the completion of their course and the one recruited during the year being posted for training to the headquarters of a district. Two cadet inspectors, 44 cadet sub-inspectors and 6 cadet sub-inspectors of excise entered the school and 41 cadet sub-inspectors appeared for the final examination all of whom were found to be qualified.

Buildings.

33. The grant for buildings in the police budget was Rs. 1·25 lakh and in the Public Works Department budget Rs. 4·33 lakhs, but the latter was reduced and projects estimated to cost only Rs. 3·74 lakhs were actually undertaken. Seven police-stations and a number of quarters were completed by the Public Works Department. Funds were transferred from the police budget to the Public Works Department for the construction of four more police-stations. A combined police-station and quarter-guard at Mawleik in the Upper Chindwin District was under construction from a separate allotment. On minor works approximately Rs. 25,000 was spent. Expenditure on the improvement and extension of existing lock-ups was only incurred at six places where work was already in progress and for which allotments aggregating Rs. 67,841 had been sanctioned. Experiments were made with two separate types of latrines. A type plan of police cottages was adopted and quarters for 23 head constables and 131 constables on this pattern were under construction at the close of the year. Expenditure on petty construction and repairs and on the erection of temporary quarters was limited as far as possible and little was done beyond the repair of existing quarters. It was reported that better accommodation for the men was wanted everywhere and that much remained to be done.

Crime and the working of the police.

34. There was a substantial increase in the amount of crime reported during the year, which was stated to be due to the unfavourable nature of the season and poor crops in Upper Burma, and to the indirect results of the war throughout the Province. Money-lenders called in their loans and refused all further advances. The rice market was poor, as a result of the closing of certain foreign markets and of the scarcity of tonnage. The war itself was responsible for a certain amount of popular unrest not without its effect on criminal statistics. The number of true cases reported increased by 3,956 from 41,111 to 45,067. The number of offences against the State was about the same, and the increase by 151 to 5,178 in the number of serious offences against the person was not serious. There were 37 more murders and 59 more cases under the hurt sections than in the previous year. In the class of serious offences against person and property or against property only there was an increase of 775 cases, of which 598 were under the house-breaking sections—from 5,214 to 5,989. The number of minor offences against property reported was 18,258, an increase of 2,276 over the figures of 1914; ordinary thefts increased in number from 9,916 to 11,942. There was also an increase in the number of cases of nuisance and of offences under special and local laws. The districts in which the most important increases in the number of serious offences against person and property or against property only occurred were Insein with an increase of 36, Tharrawaddy of 223, Prome of 115, Thatôn of 32, Amherst of 31, Tavoy of 104, Henzada of 76, Ma-ubin of 44 and Thayetmyo of 22. Corresponding figures for the number of minor offences against property were Insein 121, Tharrawaddy 576, Prome 362, Thatôn 267, Mandalay 98, Henzada 83, Ma-ubin 104, Myaungmya 135, Pyapôn 92, Thayetmyo 90 and Pakôkku 126. In Bassein there was an increase in all classes of crime save that of minor offences against property, there being a substantial reduction in the number of cattle thefts. The number of murder cases increased

from 437 to 474, of attempts at murder from 74 to 89, of dacoity and preparation and assembly for dacoity from 128 to 196, of robberies from 473 to 492, while the number of culpable homicides fell from 97 to 93 and the number of those cases of housebreaking which are classified as violent crime remained stationary at 87. The aggregate number of violent crimes reported during the year was 1,431 as compared with 1,296 in 1914, an increase of 135. The most notable decreases in Lower Burma were in Pegu 27, Hanthawaddy 26, Toungoo 21, Myaungmya 20, and in Upper Burma 7 in Lower Chindwin. There was an increase in nearly every other district, the most serious being in Tharrawaddy from 75 to 113. Other districts in which noticeable increases occurred were Insein 20, Henzada 20, Amherst 22, Tavoy 17, Akyab 15, Thayetmyo 15 and Mandalay 13. The number of cases in which firearms were used increased from 88 to 150, of which 54 were cases of dacoity or robbery. In a very large number of cases the weapons used were of local manufacture and the powder was got from the heads of matches or from Chinese crackers. Of these 150 cases many were committed by one or two gangs of criminals in Amherst and by one gang in Bassein District. The number of murders committed in Bassein rose from 15 to 30 and in Akyab from 16 to 26. In Henzada there were 11 fewer cases than in 1914. The districts from each of which 30 or more murder cases were reported were Tharrawaddy, Pegu, Prome, Insein, Henzada and Bassein. The number of murders committed by robbers and dacoits was 25 as compared with 28 in 1914. Various motives and causes such as sudden quarrels, drink, gambling, revenge and jealousy were assigned for the other murders. The increase of 68 in the number of cases of dacoity and preparation or assembly for dacoity was practically confined to Lower Burma where there were 175 cases as against 109 in 1914. There were reductions of three cases in Hanthawaddy and 5 in Pegu, but in Amherst the number rose from 2 to 16, in Bassein from 24 to 37, in Henzada from 9 to 18 and in Insein from 5 to 12. The number of robbery cases decreased in Hanthawaddy by 11, in Pegu by 23, in Bassein by 18, and in Myaungmya by 10, while there were increases in Kyaukpyu of 11, in Tharrawaddy of 24, in Henzada of 19, in Amherst of 17 and in Pakôkku of 7. The number of true cases of cattle theft increased by 207 from 2,801 to 3,008 which is the average number for the previous five years. The system of stealing cattle in order to hold them to ransom has extended considerably of recent years and has now established a firm hold in most districts. Many such cases are not reported to the police at all, and such reports as are received are usually made after the money has been paid and the cattle returned. The report calls attention to the widespread popular carelessness which turns herds of cattle loose into the jungle and leaves them for days or weeks without supervision of any sort, as a potent cause of the prevalence of cattle-theft in the Province. The increase in the number of cases of ordinary theft was contributed to by every district save Yamèthin, Upper Chindwin, Lower Chindwin, Mergui, Magwe and Sandoway. Despite the increase in the number of cases the aggregate value of property stolen decreased by Rs. 11,171. The number of cases finally dealt with by the police, excluding the cases proved to be "false" or "mistaken" and excluding cases pending at the close of the year was 38,854 or 3,438 more than in 1914. Of these, 25,583 or 66 per cent. resulted in conviction, as compared with 67 per cent. in 1914. Excluding nuisance cases, cases under special and local laws, cases compounded, cases in which investigation was refused and cases in which the accused died, 26,178 true cases were dealt with, of which 14,659 or 56 per cent. ended in conviction, 3,225 in acquittal and 8,294 remained undetected; the results are exactly the same as in 1914. The number of persons finally dealt with was 56,858, of whom 53,452 were tried and 33,785 were convicted. In 1,784 cases investigation was refused. Of murder cases reported only 15 per cent. in Amherst and Thatôn and 17 per cent. in Bassein ended in conviction; in Tharrawaddy there were seven convictions out of 32 cases. In Pakôkku out of nine cases reported eight were sent for trial and all convicted; detection was good in Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Myaungmya, Minbu and Mandalay. Out of 89 true cases of attempted murder 80 were tried and 65 convicted. Of 107 persons sent for trial 76 were convicted. Ninety-three true cases of culpable homicide were dealt with, 86 were tried and

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78 convicted. Out of 131 persons tried 90 were convicted. As in 1914, 39 per cent. of the cases of dacoity dealt with were convicted but the proportion of convictions to cases tried was higher. In Amherst and Bassein Districts several organized gangs of dacoits were broken up. Results were poor in Prome, Thatôn, Tharrawaddy, Henzada and Pegu Districts. Of robbery cases classified as true 46 per cent., the same as in 1914, ended in conviction. Of the 87 true housebreaking cases under sections 458—460, Indian Penal Code, convictions were obtained in 35 cases as against 23 in 1914, while 42 persons were convicted out of 96 dealt with and 85 tried. Of other cases of housebreaking and house-trespass 35 per cent. ended in conviction, and out of 2,078 persons dealt with and 1,965 prosecuted, 1,246 were convicted. The value of property stolen in cognizable cases was Rs. 17·35 lakhs, of which Rs. 4·69 lakhs or 27 per cent. was recovered, in non-cognizable cases Rs. 11,553 of which Rs. 2,176 or 19 per cent. was recovered. In 1914 the value was Rs. 17·12 lakhs, of which Rs. 5·16 lakhs or 30 per cent. was recovered.

Important incidents.

35. A very daring robbery with murder was committed in Mandalay Town. Three men, one of whom was armed with a revolver, entered a house and shot one of the inmates through the chest. They then bolted with some gold bangles. A hue and cry was raised and one of the men was captured at once. The remaining two, one of whom still held the revolver, were traced to a certain house where they were suspected to be hiding in the roof. Head Constable Daim Khan, climbing on to the roof, saw the two men crouching in the gutter. One of them fired at him, but Daim Khan caught him by the hair and after a struggle both men fell to the ground, a distance of twenty feet. Though severely injured and almost unconscious the head constable clung to his prisoner till assistance came. The third man was eventually arrested and all three were convicted, two being sentenced to death.

In Tharrawaddy a small Karen boy was kidnapped and held to ransom; the amount demanded was paid but the boy was not returned and, on search being made, his body was found horribly mutilated in the jungle. In Prome a Chin was kidnapped and Rs. 700 demanded for his release. This amount was deposited in the place named, but nevertheless the man was murdered; presumably the abductors were afraid of being traced. In Bassein a boy of eleven years of age was murdered, the motive being, it was said, revenge against his father. In Henzada two well-known bad characters were murdered, probably by the villagers who were tired of their depredations, and in the same district one thief quarrelled with another over the distribution of stolen property and killed him. In Myaungmya a woman was murdered by poison in order to enable her husband to get possession of her property. In Toungoo District villagers surrounded the house of a man wanted for theft and kidnapping and killed him, but not before several of the attacking party had been hurt and one killed. In Thatôn a man was murdered by a Karen because a debt of ten rupees had not been paid. In the Lower Chindwin District a little girl of seven was supposed to have been murdered for the sake of about ten rupees worth of jewellery. In a village in Hanthawaddy District eight men armed with two revolvers were attacked while committing dacoity by villagers armed with *dahs* and spears under the leadership of a Burman revenue surveyor and beaten off, leaving two of their number dead behind them. In Insein District a Chinaman armed with a spear succeeded in defending himself against the attack of ten dacoits with a gun until assistance arrived and the dacoits were driven off without any booty. In Bassein District a large band of dacoits was attacked by villagers, five of whom were severely wounded, but the dacoits were driven off without plunder. This gang was responsible for fourteen violent crimes. Karen military police were drafted into the district and the pursuit of the gang was kept up during the rains. Vigorous action was also taken under the Village Act and in the end all but two of the dacoits were either shot or arrested. An extraordinarily brave fight was made in Ma-ubin District. Six dacoits armed with a shot gun attacked an isolated house occupied by an old Karen and his wife, both of whom were aged about eighty. The only entrance to the house, which was built on piles, was by a bamboo ladder at the

top of which the old man stood keeping the dacoits at bay with a spear while his wife threw billets of wood at them. Shots were fired but the old couple were not wounded. The villagers attracted by the shots began to collect, and the dacoits decamped after setting fire to the house. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

36. Prosecutions under the excise laws increased by 370 and of the total of 5,874 the number instituted by the police was 1,693 or practically the same as in 1914. Of 5,651 cases tried, 5,045 or 89 per cent. resulted in conviction. Seven thousand one hundred and four persons were arrested, 6,976 were tried and 5,515 convicted. The results were rather better than in 1914. Several large seizures of ganja and cocaine were made. Cocaine smuggling was prevalent in all the districts of the Pegu and Irrawaddy Divisions but there was a marked reduction both in the number of cases and in the amounts of this drug seized, probably on account of the shortage of supplies and huge increase in the price of the drug. There was a decrease of 94 to 2,230 true cases under the opium laws. The number of cases sent up for trial was 2,176, of which 2,108 or 97 per cent. resulted in conviction. The number of persons dealt with was 2,911, of whom 2,807 were tried and 2,255 or 80 per cent. of the number tried were convicted. The results were good in practically all districts. Opium was again imported in large quantities into Akyab by steamer and into the Upper Chindwin across the hills from Manipur. Large seizures were made in Akyab (6,317 tolas), Northern Shan States (6,116 tolas), Insein (5,212 tolas), Amherst (4,880 tolas) and Bhamo (4,582 tolas). There were 266 prosecutions under section 3 of the Burma Opium Law Amendment Act and 202 were successful. Seizures of morphia were reported in three districts, 11,843 grains in Insein, 123 grains in Pegu and 7,815 grains in Henzada. The number of cases dealt with under the Gambling Act increased from 3,675 in 1914 to 3,770. Out of 3,697 cases tried convictions were obtained in 2,673. Of 29,243 persons dealt with 27,870 were tried and 14,421 or 49 per cent. of those dealt with were convicted. The close connection between gambling and serious crimes was frequently dwelt on in the reports. Complaints were also made of the sympathy of village headmen with gambling and their reluctance to take active measures for its suppression. Under section 17 of the Gambling Act 157 cases were taken up and 129 or 82 per cent. were successful. The number of prosecutions during 1914 was 88. There was an increase from 75 to 112 in the number of firearms seized and from 78 to 113 in the number surrendered. The number of revolvers stolen and not recovered rose from 65 to 71 and of guns from 33 to 37. In the Ruby Mines District a seizure was made of dynamite, detonators and fuse which had in all probability been stolen. Complaints were received of the lack of control exercised over weapons and ammunition issued to employees of timber and other firms working in the districts. More stringent proof of title to exemption from the provisions of the Arms Act was required than was formerly the case and several applications for registration of arms were rejected. For offences under the Arms Act 609 cases with 819 accused were instituted and 664 persons were convicted. The majority of cases were for going armed with swords and daggers. The number of licensed arms fell from 2,599 to 2,444. Offences under special Acts.

37. There was an increase of 778 true cases of non-cognizable crime during the year, 38,364 cases being dealt with as compared with 37,586 in 1914. There was a decrease in all classes save cases under special and local laws and maintenance cases. Convictions were obtained in 27,547 cases or 72 per cent. of the total number of cases dealt with. The number of persons who appeared before the courts was 76,196, the number discharged without trial 776 and the number convicted 41,693. Non-cognizable crime.

38. Proceedings under the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure were taken against 2,295 persons, of whom 1,886 or 82 per cent. were placed on security. In Myaungmya the number of cases fell by 149, in Pegu by 107, Yamèthin by 82 and there was much less action apparent in Prome, Akyab Preventive sections, surveillance, and identification.

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and Sagaing. The decrease was attributed to the satisfactory result of the action taken in the previous year. Many cases were instituted in the Henzada, Bassein and Thatôn Districts, in the last named of which proceedings were instituted against 229 persons, of whom 190 were placed on security. At the end of 1914, 10,566 names were on the surveillance registers and there were 154 registered conditionally released prisoners. During 1915, 3,611 names were added to the surveillance registers (including 53 names erroneously omitted in 1914) and the names of 29 men conditionally released. The number that returned to honest livelihood during the year was 2,375, and 1,369 criminals emigrated or died, leaving 10,491 on the registers. The number of conditionally released prisoners on the registers at the end of the year was 125. Of the aggregate of 10,616, 8,409 were under surveillance, 1,494 were in jail and 713 had been lost sight of. In certain districts arrangements were made for village headmen to report at once to the police the movements of surveillance criminals. The corrected total of the number of proclaimed and absconding offenders at the end of 1914 is 5,448. In the course of the year 1915 the number proclaimed was 1,983. Of those proclaimed prior to 1915 the number arrested was 666, and of those proclaimed in the year 705. Some 786 names were cancelled owing to various reasons and the number of absconders at large at the end of 1915 was 5,274.

The number of prisoners with previous convictions identified by the police before sentence was 4,481, of whom 1,444 had three or more previous convictions. Two were identified in jail after sentence had been passed. During the year 14,818 finger-print slips were accepted for record, and of these 10,364 were placed in the search almirah and 4,454 in the jail almirah. The total number on record at the end of the year was 155,931. Nine inspectors, 37 sub-inspectors and one head constable were trained in elementary finger-print work. The number of slips received for search during the year was 8,842, of which 2,209 were traced with previous convictions. Forty-seven were slips of surveillance criminals and 46 of absconders. The finger-print slips of all criminals whose whereabouts are unknown, and of all absconders for whom finger-print slips are on record, are flagged, and as soon as these criminals are traced by the Bureau, information is sent to the district concerned. Out of 2,209 traced slips 1,358 belonged to criminals of districts other than the district in which they were arrested and information of their arrest was at once sent to their home districts. The finger-print slips of 1,255 recruits and 289 railway employés were received and 39 of these were traced as having previous convictions. Expert evidence was given in 133 criminal and 32 civil cases and in two departmental enquiries. Expert information was given in writing in 153 cases, of which 142 were criminal, 5 civil, 4 departmental and 2 private. Two cases of forgery were reported in which signatures had been forged to obtain agricultural advances. In both cases finger-print experts were called to prove that the impressions on the documents were those of the persons accused of forgery. In both cases convictions were obtained.

Punitive Police.

39. Additional police forces numbering 302 officers and men continued to be employed during the year in the Prome and Tharrawaddy Districts. These forces have now been in existence for three of the five years for which they were originally sanctioned and the question of their retention or disbandment will shortly come under consideration. An additional police force of 188 officers and men sanctioned with effect from 1st November 1914 in the Hanthawaddy District was enrolled and trained during 1915. In Pegu District an additional force of 143 of all ranks was sanctioned with effect from 2nd January 1915, and eleven additional police-stations were notified in April 1915. The men for these stations were not all fully trained by the close of the year. A punitive police force of one sub-inspector and 5 constables was stationed for one year from 1st April 1915 at Nyaungbindaw village in the Shwebo District. Additional police numbering 1 head constable and 3 constables sanctioned for two years from 19th February 1914 were maintained during the year in Gyo village, Sagaing District. The force of 22 sub-inspectors employed for two years from 1st March 1913 in the Henzada District was disbanded on the 28th February 1915.

40. The sanctioned strength of the railway police remained unaltered at 435. The discipline of this force was on the whole good though the actual number of punishments increased to 80, of which 41 were under the "black mark" system. Only 4 men were removed or dismissed as compared with 23 in 1914. Eleven officers and 34 men were rewarded as compared with 5 officers and 24 men in 1914. Sixty-six recruits attended the depôt, of whom 59 passed out; the number attending for recurrent training was 53, of whom 51 passed. It was found impossible for financial reasons to proceed with the construction of new quarters and 66 officers and men were at the end of the year without quarters. Excluding cases in which investigation was refused and 12 cases compounded, 1,381 true cases were finally dealt with, an increase of 152 in the year. Of these 930 were convicted, 83 acquitted and 368 were undetected. The number of persons finally dealt with was 1,575, of whom 75 per cent. were convicted. Most of the crime committed on the railway falls in the classes of minor offences against property and nuisances and offences against special and local laws. The increase in the former was 112, of which 94 were ordinary thefts. The results of the action taken were not so good in theft cases as in cases under special laws. In house-breakings and ordinary thefts property valued at Rs. 26,160 was stolen, of which 21 per cent. was recovered, a rather better result than in 1914. Under the Excise Act 78 cases were dealt with in 70 of which convictions were obtained; of 89 true cases under the Opium Act, 85 resulted in conviction. Seizures were made of 19,756 grains of cocaine, 16,316 tolas of ganja, 13,659 tolas of opium, and 3,096 grains of morphia. There were 17 true cases under the Arms Act, including 4 cases in which firearms were seized, and in 16 cases convictions resulted. There were 2 cases of murder, 1 of culpable homicide, 5 of robbery and 2 of house-breaking committed and in one case of murder and 2 cases of robbery convictions were obtained. The number of criminals under surveillance on the registers of the railway police was 363 but the actual watching of these men is necessarily principally in the hands of the district police. At the end of 1914 the number of persons shown as absconding was 89 and during the year 15 others were proclaimed. Nine were arrested, 8 names were expunged and the number unaccounted for at the close of the year was 87. Fifteen village headmen, 20 railway employees and 48 villagers were rewarded during the year.

Military Police.

41. The actual number of Indian officers, non-commissioned officers and men serving in the military police at the close of the year was 16,070 or 364 less than the sanctioned strength of the force. Owing to the departure to take part in the war of large numbers of Sikhs and Mahomedans, and the stoppage of further recruiting among these classes, certain changes in the caste composition of the battalions became necessary, Sikhs and Mahomedans being to some extent replaced by men of other Indian castes and by recruits from within the Province. A depôt was formed in the Indian Infantry barracks at Meiktila for the training of volunteers prior to their despatch on active service. A composite company of Kachins from the Bhamo and Myitkyina Battalions was attached to the 1st Battalion of the 10th Gurkha Rifles thus releasing a company of Gurkhas for active service. A half company of Haka Chins was raised and added to the existing half company of Siyin Chins in the Chin Hills Battalion. Three temporary outposts were stationed in the Kamaing and Mogaung Hill Tracts of the Myitkyina District to maintain order. A force of 128 mounted infantry and 484 foot drawn from various battalions was employed on patrol duty along the Siamese frontier and endured considerable hardships during the rains. The total cost of the force, which in 1914 was Rs. 61·31 lakhs, was reduced to Rs. 59·88 lakhs principally by the depletion of numbers caused by the departure on service of volunteers. The year was unhealthy and the number of men who were granted sick leave and the number of admissions to hospital rose from 555 and 15,259 respectively in 1914 to 947 and 17,603. Putao, a newly established district headquarters and military police post, was notably unhealthy. Other causes assigned for the high rate of sickness are, the presence in the force of a large proportion of elderly men waiting for pension on one hand and of unacclimatised recruits on the other, stoppage of furlough, overwork and constant exposure to malarial infection. At the beginning of the

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year the services of the military police were required for the suppression of a rising in the Kachin Hills in Myitkyina District. The failure of the garrison of Kamaing Post to dislodge the Kachins from a strongly entrenched position was magnified by rumour into a great rebel success and the rising spread throughout the whole of the Kamaing and Mogaung Tracts. Two strong columns of military police were formed with bases at Kamaing and Mogaung to operate against the Kachins. Both columns were strongly opposed in very thick jungle but hustled and fought the enemy so continously and successfully that opposition soon died away. A mixed column of 10th Gurkha Rifles and military police marched from Kamaing tract into the Hukong valley and burned without opposition a village implicated in the rising. A small similar mixed column cleared the Jade Mines tract of all disorderly elements. A third column accompanied by a Civil Officer, visited the Möng country and inflicted punishment for its share in the rebellion. The number of reinforcements of military police despatched to deal with the rising was 4 British officers and 557 Indian officers, non-commissioned officers and men. One British officer was wounded and of other ranks nine were killed, three died of wounds and five were wounded. The Indian Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to eight Indian officers and men for good work during the operations. During 1914 only Gurkha and Garhwali volunteers were allowed to proceed on active service from the military police but in 1915, in response to offers of service led by the Bhamo Battalion which volunteered *en masse*, men of other classes were accepted, and one contingent after another, varying from 100 to 500 strong, was prepared and despatched to the front. The total contributions to the overseas expeditionary forces were 21 officers and 1,284 rank and file with 20 signallers and there were nine short of 3,000 volunteers waiting to go at the end of the year. The contingents sent out were composed of 712 Sikhs, 354 Punjabi Mussalmans, 86 Gurkhas (936 went in 1914), 2 Garhwalis (312 went in 1914), 57 Rajputs, 42 Hindustani Mussalmans, 31 Jats, 30 Dogras and 11 Brahmins. The casualties at the war reported up till the end of the year were 102 killed, 21 died of wounds, 22 died of disease, 33 missing and 355 wounded. The restriction of the recruiting area in India caused by the requirements of the regular forces during the war made it difficult to secure the number necessary to fill gaps in the force. In India, 1,766 recruits were enlisted and in Burma 467 men of indigenous races. The mounted infantry were maintained at full strength and 53 volunteers for active service were sent to Indian Cavalry regiments. The number of remounts purchased was 209 and the number of casualties 127, one less than in 1914. The number of desertions increased from 79 to 136, most of them among Kachins, Karens and Gurkhas. The resignations amounted to 67 as against 427 in 1914, the decrease being due to the fact that men are not allowed to take their discharge during the war. The percentage of punishments to strength was 1·85 in the case of Indian officers and 8·81 in the case of rank and file, the corresponding figures for 1914 being 1·93 and 8. Forty-two Indian officers, non-commissioned officers and men received rewards, titles and decorations. Difficulties were experienced in replacing worn-out arms and equipment.

Rangoon Town Police.

42. The special force of plague police consisting of two officers and 19 men was on 1st January 1915 amalgamated with the Rangoon Town Police and four constables to provide reserves were added to it. The number of officers was increased by 2 inspectors, 3 sub-inspectors and 10 European sergeants. The sanctioned strength of the force at the close of the year, including the Port Trust and the Hackney Carriage Police, was 99 officers and 1,246 men: the actual strength was 98 officers and 1,200 men. There was difficulty in obtaining Indian recruits and the class obtained was in many respects undesirable, but Burman recruits of a good stamp were readily obtainable. The shortage of strength has rendered it impossible to carry out the rules with respect to recurrent training and only 29 men went through the course. Time-expired soldiers being unobtainable, the European Sergeants were enlisted from the domiciled European population and are favourably reported on. The total cost of the force increased from Rs. 6,19,184 in 1914 to Rs. 6,70,374 in 1915 owing to the increase in the number of officers, the increase of contingent expenditure and the grant of

conveyance and ration allowances to certain officers and constables. There were 28 dismissals, 14 removals and 3 discharges during the year as compared with 22 dismissals, 21 removals and 1 discharge in 1914. Ten of the dismissals followed on conviction by a magistrate. Six officers and 139 men were punished departmentally as against 9 officers and 162 men in the previous year. Severe measures were adopted in order to restore the discipline of the Cantonment Police Station and were successful. The number of deaths fell from 21 in 1914 to 12, but the health of the force was unsatisfactory, the rate of admission to hospital rising from 18 to 30 per cent. Extra work arising from the war and aggravated by the shortage in strength, and unsatisfactory housing accommodation, were responsible for this increase. Seven officers and 109 men resigned during the year, an increase of 5 officers and a decrease of 23 men on a comparison with the figures of the previous year. Of the 7 officers who resigned, 6 were European Sergeants who obtained more remunerative employment elsewhere. Over one hundred constables applied for permission to enlist in the military police drafts which left Burma to reinforce regiments on active service but it was impossible to grant more than ten of the applications. A good number of others however resigned their positions in the police and enlisted in Indian regiments stationed in Burma. The number of offences under the Indian Penal Code reported during the year was two less than in 1914, the figures being 1,206 and 1,208. There was an increase of 1,804 in the number of the less important offences under special and local laws. The number of true cases of dacoity increased from two to six and in only one of these was a conviction obtained. There were 17 cases of robbery as compared with 13 in 1914. The measure of success attained in dealing with these was satisfactory, the offenders being convicted in 13 cases. At the outbreak of war in 1914 military police patrols were posted throughout the town to the profound discouragement of any spirit of enterprise among the criminal classes. The unavoidable removal of these patrols in 1915 was partly responsible for the recrudescence of crime reported. Other causes assigned are the absence of all lighting in the back drainage spaces in the urban area and the lack of roads and street lighting in the suburbs. The number of cases in the class of serious offences against the person increased from 143 to 156. Of 13 cases of murder 3 ended in conviction, 4 in discharge and 6 were undetected. In this class of cases as a whole convictions were obtained in 51 per cent. of the cases reported as compared with 57 per cent. in 1914. There was an increase of 7 in the class of serious offences against property and person or against property only, the figures being 90 in 1914 and 97 in 1915 and the percentage of cases in which convictions were obtained fell from 59 to 55. Of offences classified as minor offences against property the number reported was 772 as compared with 773 in 1914 and the percentage of true cases which ended in the conviction of the offenders was the same in both years, 74. The total value of property stolen in 1915 was Rs. 1,70,245, the figures for the previous year being Rs. 1,19,326. The value of the property recovered was Rs. 55,038 or 32 per cent. of the value of that stolen, as compared with Rs. 45,491 or 38 per cent. in 1914. Under the Excise Act 763 cases were instituted and 676 cases or 89 per cent. ended in conviction, as against 903 cases of which 843 or 93 per cent. ended in conviction in 1914. Under the Opium Act the numbers of cases and convictions were 668 and 593 or 89 per cent., the figures of the previous year being 455 and 428 or 94 per cent. Fourteen cases, in all of which convictions were obtained, were instituted under the Arms Act as compared with 21 cases and 19 convictions in 1914. The absorption of the police in other duties has interfered with continued rigorous action under this Act. Renewed complaints were received during the year of thefts from rice bags by the crews of cargo boats conveying the rice to steamers loading in the harbour, a class of crime exceedingly difficult to detect. Exceedingly onerous duties arising from the war have fallen to be discharged by the police. Surveillance over all suspicious characters has become more stringent, all steamers arriving in the harbour have been met and their passengers examined, and arrangements have been made for the arrest and internment under the Foreigners Ordinance of all persons who came within the scope of that Enactment. The deportation of certain residents of the town to Kyaukpyu nipped in the bud numerous

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undesirable intrigues and the unrest caused by them, and was generally approved by public opinion.

Village Administration.

43. During the year 1915 the number of headmen in Burma fell from 17,397 to 17,258. The policy of gradually breaking up charges of circle headmen was maintained with a resulting decrease of 36 in their number; but while the corresponding reduction in the number of subordinate headmen was 350, the increase in the number of independent headmen was 247 only. The difference was due to the amalgamation, as opportunities occurred, of village-tracts too small for independent charges. Many of the village-tracts as originally formed did not provide adequate status or remuneration for their headmen. Over the greater part of Burma the limits of village-tracts are well defined and maps of their charges have been supplied to headmen. In most of the areas in which boundaries had not been precise hitherto, progress was made in definition and demarcation. The work was completed in the plains of the Toungoo District, in the Ruby Mines District and in the Mingin and Kalewa Subdivisions of the Upper Chindwin District; and there was marked progress in the Shwegu Subdivision of the Bhamo District. In Tavoy definition and demarcation await the supply of one inch survey maps. In the Yamèthin District forest reserves and unsurveyed areas, which were not previously subject to the jurisdiction of any headman, were included in village-tracts The number of headmen exercising special criminal powers increased from 1,507 to 1,580 and the number exercising special civil powers from 1,774 to 1,802. The total value of the fines inflicted by headmen decreased by nearly Rs 18,000 from Rs. 1,59,330 to Rs. 1,41,578, an amount which is substantial in view of the decrease of Rs. 20,000 which took place the previous year. The main cause of the decrease was the reluctance of headmen to inflict fines on persons who, on account of scarcity of money resulting from the war and, in certain localities, from deficient harvests, were unable to pay them. The decrease was not, however, general; in the Prome District the amount of fines was double the figure of the previous year, and was a maximum for the Province. The orders of headmen were confirmed in 96 per cent. of the cases examined. The total number of headmen's cases revised by district officers fell from 32,042 to 30,887. The revenue work of headmen was, as usual, well done; and their success in collecting revenue promptly was the more notable in view of the abnormal conditions of the year. The collection of capitation-tax gave trouble in the Bassein District and in the riverine areas of the Tharrawaddy District. In Bassein and Pegu Districts a number of headmen were punished for fraud, and in the Shwebo District for dilatoriness and untrustworthiness in revenue matters. A great improvement in the promptitude of collections has in recent years taken place in the Yamèthin District. Certain headmen in the Sagaing District were appointed Fishery Officers under sections 15 to 18 of the Burma Fisheries Act and on the whole discharged their duties satisfactorily. Some general improvement in the excise work of headmen took place, partly as a result of the prompt payment of liberal rewards. In the Thatôn, Amherst, Pyapôn, Yamèthin and Minbu Districts headmen were instrumental in procuring numerous convictions of offences against the Opium and Excise Acts. In the Tharrawaddy and Yamèthin Districts good work was done under the supervision of headmen on minor irrigation systems. Numerous rewards were earned by headmen during the year for assistance in the detection and arrest of offenders, and are evidence of the excellent relations which exist between them and the Police. Little progress was made in the improvement of village sanitation. An epidemic of cholera in Upper Burma produced a general cleansing in the infected areas, and some progress was made in inducing villagers to pen their herds of cattle outside the village fence. Unsatisfactory sanitary conditions are in many cases due to the restricted area of village sites. The number of headmen rewarded during the year was 1,691, an increase of 109 over the figures for 1914, but the number dismissed increased from 271 to 288, the number suspended from 75 to 81 and the number fined from 358 to 430. Dismissals and removals were most numerous in the Akyab, Bassein and Shwebo Districts. The number of fines imposed collectively on the inhabitants of village-tracts was almost the same as in 1914, but there was a

substantial reduction in the total value of the fines from Rs. 72,771 to Rs. 50,460, which was probably due to the reluctance of district officers to burden the people during a period of financial stringency. Numerous instances of resistance by villagers to robbers and dacoits occurred, conspicuous among them being attacks by villagers on dacoits armed with firearms in the Hanthawaddy and Meiktila Districts. Notable decreases in the application of the Track Law took place in the Tharrawaddy and Yamèthin Districts. In the Sagaing Division a beginning was made with the working out of a scheme for the maintenance and improvement of village roads. Headmen were supplied with maps of their village-tracts accompanied by a schedule of the village-roads which the inhabitants were expected to keep in order and a statement of the work to be done on each. Assistance is given from the District Fund for the construction of bridges and embankments in bad soil. The scheme promises well and action on similar lines was taken in the Yamèthin, Kyauksè and Meiktila Districts.

Wild animals and snakes.

44. The total number of persons killed by wild animals during the year fell, by 1 from 67 to 66. No district shewed a greater variation than 6 in the direction either of increase or decrease. The mortality from snake bite again rose substantially, the figures for 1914 and 1915 being respectively 1,312 and 1,558. Five districts reported an increase of 36 deaths or more. In some cases no explanation was attempted and such explanations as were forthcoming were not in all cases lucid or convincing. In Tharrawaddy the scale of rewards for the destruction of snakes was declared to be too low; in Magwe on the other hand where, under the stimulation of a reward of eight annas per head, the number of snakes destroyed in recent years has been enormous, the annual mortality from snake bite rose from 104 to 155. A suggestion has been made that the increased activity in the destruction of snakes is responsible for the increase in the number of persons killed by their bite. Sir Lauder Brunton's lancets continued to be distributed in the majority of districts. Many cures, both to human beings and to animals, were reported, but as usual it was impossible to be certain that the snake in question was really venomous. No case in which this was verified beyond a doubt was brought to the notice of Government, but there could be little doubt that some of the cases treated were caused by the bite of a poisonous snake. Belief in the efficacy of these lancets gained ground, though not rapidly or universally, it being reported from one township that headmen had little trust in them and that no case of their successful use had occurred. The number of cattle killed by wild animals was 9,595 or 186 more than in the previous year. The largest individual variation, of which no explanation was given, was in the Pakôkku District, where the number killed was 561 less than in 1914. Other large decreases were reported in Katha and Shwebo but the accuracy of the figures in the former case was dubious. Increases in the number killed took place in the Mandalay District of 377, in the Chin Hills of 244, in the Akyab District of 171 and in the Sagaing District of 106. The number of cattle killed by snake bite was 6,610 as compared with 7,007 in 1914. Increases of 254 were reported from Tharrawaddy and of 168 from Thayetmyo. Thatôn, Pegu and Pyapôn exhibited the most marked decreases. Among wild animals tigers and panthers were, as usual, the most destructive agents and accounted, roughly, for five and four thousand deaths respectively. Panthers were confined almost entirely to Upper Burma. The number of wild animals destroyed increased by 1,335 to 6,352. A rise of nearly 900 in the Akyab District was accounted for by the fact that wild pig, of which 877 were destroyed, were not included in the returns of the previous year. Better supervision over the payment of rewards accounted for a decrease of 105 in the total reported from the Katha District. The number of snakes destroyed fell from 44,299 to 34,757 but the figures are not trustworthy. In Insein District the number reported killed in 1914 was 29,045, in 1915 it was 1. The payment of rewards stopped with the result that reports of killing snakes ceased to be made. A similar cause induced a reduction in Tharrawaddy from 3,089 to 2. In Magwe as a result of the payment of rewards the number of snakes killed rose from 4,459 to 25,280. The rewards ceased to be paid from November 1915. The

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total number of gun licenses in force for the protection of crops and the destruction of wild animals declined from 7,661 to 7,530. The principal decrease was in Bhamo District among licenses held under the Kachin Hill Tracts Regulation.

Criminal Justice.

General.

45. The administration of Criminal Justice is in Lower Burma under the control of the Chief Court, and in Upper Burma of the Judicial Commissioner. The Chief Court consists of five Judges, and the appointment of a temporary Additional Judge was continued during the year 1915. The judiciary in Lower Burma consisted of 75 European Judges and Magistrates, 269 Native Magistrates and 32 Benches of Honorary Magistrates; in Upper Burma of 80 European Judges and Magistrates, 143 Native Magistrates and 13 Benches of Honorary Magistrates. As a temporary measure an Additional District Magistrate was appointed in the Amherst and Tavoy Districts. In order to dispose of an accumulation of arrears an Additional Magistrate exercising special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure was appointed for a short time in the districts of Prome and Thatôn. The appointments of Special Power Magistrate and third Additional Magistrate at Bassein were made permanent while that of Additional Magistrate at Kyaiklat was abolished. A temporary Additional Magistrate was employed during the year in Myaungmya, and from 25th February in Nyaunglebin Subdivision of Pegu District. There was no alteration of the jurisdiction of Courts of Sessions. An Additional Sessions Judge was employed in the Tharrawaddy Division for nine months, in each of the Tenasserim and Bassein Divisions for one-and-a-half months, and in Ma-ubin for half-a-month. One additional first class Magistrate was appointed in Mandalay Town to relieve the Subdivisional Magistrates. In order to assist the District Magistrates of Mandalay, Pakôkku and Shwebo three officers stationed in these districts were invested with special powers under section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Notifications were issued appointing the District Magistrates of Katha, Bhamo, Ruby Mines, Myitkyina and Putao, Additional Sessions Judges of the Mandalay Division to try such cases as should be transferred to them by the Sessions Judge. At each of the towns of Salin, Minbu, Taungdwingyi and Yenangyaung a Bench of Honorary Magistrates was constituted.

Cases.

46. In Lower Burma the number of cases reported rose by 3,308 from 82,508 to 85,816, and the number of cases classified as true by 2,918 from 66,107 to 69,025. There were 38,127 cases under the Indian Penal Code reported and 26,260 returned as true as against 36,002 reported and 24,497 returned as true in 1914. Under Special and Local Laws the cases reported numbered 47,689 and the cases returned as true 42,765 as against 46,506 and 41,610 respectively in 1914. All but a small fraction of the increase of 1,763 in the number of offences under the Indian Penal Code was due to offences against property. Cases of ordinary theft and of receiving stolen property increased by 1,175, of cattle theft by 44, of housebreaking and lurking house trespass by 357, of robbery by 19 and of dacoity by 75. The number of true dacoity cases reported reached the high total of 201. Three hundred and sixty-three cases of robbery were reported as against 316 in 1914, but only 238 were classified as true as against 219 in 1914. In most offences relating to the body there were slight increases. There were four fewer murder cases classified as true than in 1914, but there were 11 more attempts at murder and 5 more cases of culpable homicide. Grievous hurt cases increased by 18, simple hurt by 103. There was an increase of 53 in the number of cases relating to false evidence and offences against public justice. The increase of 1,155 in the number of true cases under Special and Local Laws was nearly altogether caused by increased activity in prosecutions under the Rangoon Police and Port Acts. Under the Excise Act there was a decrease of two cases, more than accounted for by a drop from 849 to 700 in the numbers reported from Rangoon Town, and under the Opium Act an increase of 221 cases, of which Rangoon was responsible for 208. True cases under the Forest Act rose by

203 to 768, nearly half of the increase being in Henzada District. Under the Gambling Act there was a fall from 1,898 cases to 1,872. In Upper Burma the number of offences reported was 28,972 an increase by 2,110 over the figures of 1914. The increase of cases was accounted for almost entirely by the increase in the number of cases under Local and Special Laws, to which increase the number of prosecutions for offences against the Municipal Act in Mandalay, 1,102 more than in 1914, materially contributed. An indifferent agricultural season and scarcity of money led to an increase in the number of cases of cattle theft by 61, and of ordinary theft and receiving stolen property by 265. The number of dacoities rose from 24 to 32 and the number of robberies fell from 66 to 58. There was apparently no organised violent crime and the robberies and dacoities reported were not of serious importance. The number of cases of murder increased from 86 to 188, and there was an increase of 5 and 3 respectively in the number of cases of attempted murder and culpable homicide. Cases of simple hurt fell from 2,283 to 2,054. In Lower Burma the percentage of true to reported cases was 80·43 as against 80·12 in 1914, and in Upper Burma 81 as against 80·14. The number of complaints summarily dismissed increased in Lower Burma from 3,571 to 3,593, but in Upper Burma fell from 1,167 to 1,051.

Disposal of cases.

47. In Lower Burma there were 83,240 cases brought to trial during the year as against 80,145 in 1914. Of these 35,794 were under the Indian Penal Code and 47,446 under Special and Local Laws. At the end of the year there were 3,679 persons still awaiting the disposal of their cases under the Indian Penal Code and 3,262 persons under Special and Local Laws as against 3,070 and 1,489 at the end of 1914. The proportion of persons awaiting trial at the end of the year to those brought to trial during the year increased greatly. The number of cases disposed of by District Magistrates was 658; in 1914 it was 660. In Rangoon the Honorary Magistrates disposed of 20,251 cases affecting 31,555 persons as compared with 18,830 cases affecting 28,881 persons in 1914. The percentage of cases tried summarily to the total tried fell from 47·49 to 43·07. The number of persons whose cases were disposed of by magistrates increased from 127,609 in 1914 to 132,462 in 1915. The number convicted, committed to sessions or whose cases were remitted to higher authority for sentence was 86,279 or 65·13 per cent. of the total; corresponding figures for 1914 were 79,309 and 62·15 per cent. The year was marked by an increase in the stringency with which the preventive sections of the Code of Criminal Procedure were put into operation. The number of persons proceeded against with a view to their being bound over to keep the peace rose from 141 to 163, and the number proceeded against with a view to their being bound down to good behaviour from 1,992 to 2,044. The number of persons actually bound over to keep the peace was 125 as against 104 in 1914, and the number bound down to good behaviour 1,528 as against 1,509. The percentage of successful proceedings was 79·36 as against 76·47. Applications for maintenance under section 488 of the Code of Criminal Procedure rose from 1,523 to 1,768. There were 600 cases committed to sessions during the year as compared with 551 in 1914. The percentage of convictions which in 1914 was 58·47 rose to 58·99 in 1915. In the Bassein Division an increase from 45 to 66·6 per cent. was attributed to the very unusual circumstance that a number of accused pleaded guilty to charges of dacoity. The number of cases referred to Sessions Courts under section 123 of the Code of Criminal Procedure increased from 37 in 1914 to 63. The percentage of cases in which the order of the magistrate was confirmed was 59·7 as compared with 64·6. The number of cases committed to the Chief Court was 45 involving 72 persons as against 47 involving 73 persons in 1914. Forty-seven cases involving 73 persons were disposed of and of these 73 persons 31 were discharged or acquitted and 42 were convicted. The percentage of convictions was 57·52 as compared with 53·66 in 1914. The average duration of cases in all courts rose from 13 to 14 days. The average duration in Courts of Sessions fell from 56·95 to 47·76 days, the most marked improvement taking place in the Bassein Division from 89·91 to 46·66 days. The number of witnesses examined again increased, being 330,110 as compared with 302,994 in 1914.

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In Upper Burma the number of cases disposed of by magistrates increased from 25,472 in 1914 to 27,267 in 1915 of which 9,799 or 1,890 more than in the previous year were tried summarily. District Magistrates disposed of 399 cases or 196 less than in 1914. The percentage of convictions in trials by District Magistrates under their special powers was 62·46 as compared with 66·73 in 1914. The number of persons who were under trial before magistrates was 50,056 or 2,204 more than in 1914, and the percentage of the number convicted to the number tried 61·76 as compared with 61·81 in the preceding year. The number of persons whose cases were compounded was 3,425, a decrease of 162 on a comparison with 1914. Benches of Honorary Magistrates disposed of 6,870 cases involving 7 923 persons as compared with 5,284 cases and 5,858 persons in 1914, an increase partly due to the constitution of four new benches. The number of persons committed for trial to Courts of Sessions was 248, an increase of 54 over the numbers of the previous year. The cases relating to 236 persons were disposed of during the year as compared with 177 persons in 1914. The percentage of convictions in Courts of Sessions was 77·97 or 6·22 higher than in 1914. Prosecutions were instituted under sections 106 and 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure against 120 persons and under sections 109 and 110 against 734 persons during the year, the corresponding figures for 1914 being 78 and 790. Security to keep the peace was demanded from 100 persons and to be of good behaviour from 546 persons as compared with 70 and 610 persons respectively. The cases of 10 persons as against 12 in 1914 were referred to Courts of Sessions under section 123 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The orders of Subordinate Magistrates were confirmed in all these cases. The percentage of success in cases to keep the peace was 83·33 and in cases for good behaviour 78·56 as compared with 92·11 and 81·88 in 1914. The number of applications for maintenance under section 488 of the Code of Criminal Procedure rose from 1,547 to 1,633. The average duration of all cases was 11 days the same as in 1914.

Punishments.

48. In Lower Burma the total number of persons punished in Magistrates' Courts was 82,085 or 6,316 more than in 1914. Of the total increase 4,449 took place in Rangoon Town. The number of persons whose death sentences were referred to the Chief Court for confirmation was 111 as compared with 86 in 1914. The death sentence was confirmed in 57 cases as against 63 in the previous year. In 23 cases the sentence was reduced and in 21 reversed, the corresponding figures for 1914 being 8 and 9. One man was sentenced to death by the Chief Court sitting as a Court of Sessions as against 2 in 1914. In Courts of Sessions the number of persons sentenced to transportation rose from 266 to 317 and the number sentenced to rigorous imprisonment fell from 180 to 133. Nearly five-sixths of the increase in the number of punishments was due to the increase in the number of sentences of fine without imprisonment from 56,645 to 61,660. In Rangoon the number of such sentences increased by 4,857. The fines were mostly inflicted as punishment for offences under Special and Local Laws. The number of persons transported rose by 78 to 499, of persons rigorously imprisoned by 408 to 14,333, and of persons simply imprisoned by 258 to 3,523. The number of persons sentenced to solitary confinement combined with rigorous imprisonment fell from 926 in 1914 to 754. The number of sentences of whipping, most of them for offences against property, increased from 1,460 to 1,700. The aggregate amount of fines imposed was Rs. 5·84 lakhs as against Rs. 5·81 lakhs in 1914 and the amount realised Rs. 4·84 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·21 lakhs in 1914. The amount paid as compensation under section 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure increased by Rs. 148 to Rs. 32,025. The number of persons who were ordered under section 250 of the Code of Criminal Procedure to pay compensation for bringing frivolous or vexatious complaints which was 84 in 1914 fell to 66 in 1915. There was a satisfactory increase from 813 to 1,148 in the number of persons released on security under section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Only 9 boys were sent to the Reformatory School as compared with 23 in 1914. In Upper Burma 28,606 persons were judicially punished during 1915, an increase over the figures of the previous year

of 1,138. Of the punishments awarded 83·15 per cent. were of fine without imprisonment and 11·64 per cent. of rigorous imprisonment without solitary confinement, or about the same proportion as in 1914. The number of sentences of rigorous imprisonment combined with solitary confinement increased from 149 to 167 and of whipping alone from 488 to 562, while whipping in addition to other punishment was awarded in 31 cases as against 36. There was a decline in the aggregate amounts of fines imposed and realised from Rs. 3·09 lakhs and Rs. 2·71 lakhs to Rs. 2·69 lakhs and Rs. 2·34 lakhs respectively. The amount of compensation awarded under sections 250 and 545 of the Code of Criminal Procedure declined from Rs. 2,268 and Rs. 21,930 to Rs. 1,794 and Rs. 20,995 respectively. The number of persons who were dealt with under the provisions of section 562 of the Code of Criminal Procedure which was 366 in 1914 was 388 in 1915. Four boys were sent to Reformatory Schools as compared with 8 in the previous year.

Appeals.

49. The year was marked by a general increase in the number of appeals preferred by convicted persons in Lower Burma, the total rising from 8,053 to 9,218. The increase amounted to 450 in the Courts of District or Senior Magistrates, to 541 in Sessions Courts and to 174 in the Chief Court. The number of appeals not disposed of at the close of the year was 399; at the end of 1914 it was 494. The Local Government preferred five appeals against acquittals involving eight persons as compared with seven involving 12 persons in 1914. The acquittals of six persons were reversed and of two confirmed. Of all the sentences which came under the review of Appellate Courts during the year the percentage wholly confirmed was 69·37 and the percentage wholly reversed 15·89, the corresponding percentages for 1914 being 68·74 and 16·9. In the Chief Court the percentage of confirmations decreased from 74·78 to 71·27 but the percentage of complete reversals remained much the same, 13·27 as against 13·44. The average duration for all courts was 25 days, an increase of one over the figure for 1914. In Upper Burma there was a slight decrease in the number of appeals preferred from 2,718 to 2,706. While the number declined in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner and in the Courts of District Magistrates from 267 and 1,290 to 252 and 1,125 respectively, it rose in Sessions Courts from 1,161 to 1,329. The appeals of 2,647 persons were disposed of during the year and the number left pending at the end of the year which was 94 in 1914 fell to 59. The percentage of cases in which the order of the lower court was confirmed on appeal was 59·05 as compared with 62·46 in the previous year. The average duration was 19 or two days more than in 1914. In the Courts of District Magistrates there was an increase from 12 to 16 days and in Sessions Courts a decrease from 16 to 12 days.

Revisions.

50. In Lower Burma District Magistrates had before them on revision 5,584 cases affecting 10,604 persons as against 5,307 cases affecting 8,854 persons in 1914. Further enquiry was ordered in regard to 193 persons as against 112 and the cases of 193 persons were reported to the Chief Court as against 111. The number of persons whose cases came before Sessions Judges on revision was 3,838 as against 4,126. They ordered further enquiry with regard to 46 persons as compared with 53 in 1914, and referred to the Chief Court the cases of 196 as compared with 223. The Chief Court had before it on revision the cases of 1,777 persons as compared with 1,901 in 1914. It confirmed the orders of the lower court in the cases of 954 persons as against 1,105, enhanced the sentence in 23 cases as against 30, reduced it in 74 as against 65, and reversed it in 196 as against 282.

Including 108 cases that were pending from the previous year the total number of cases that came before District Magistrates in Upper Burma on revision was 4,375 or 456 more than in 1914. The number called for under the Criminal Justice Regulation increased from 2,032 to 2,600, but the number otherwise called for declined from 1,887 to 1,775. In the former class of cases the percentage of the total in which the orders of subordinate magistrates were confirmed

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was 94·92 and in the latter 95·04. In Sessions Courts the percentage of confirmations was 98·01 as compared with 97·31 in 1914. The number of cases which came before the Judicial Commissioner on revision, including cases pending from 1914, was 1,158 involving 2,051 persons as compared with 1,177 cases and 2,127 persons in 1914. All cases but two were disposed of. In 84·23 per cent. of the number of persons whose cases were disposed of the decisions of the lower courts were not disturbed; the corresponding percentage in 1914 was 89·40. It was necessary to interfere in revision in numerous cases with illegal or unsuitable sentences passed on juvenile offenders.

Prisons.

Accommodation.

51. During the year there was accommodation for 16,113 males in the prisons of the Province, as compared with 15,698 males in the previous year; that for females was reduced from 324 to 320. The daily average number of prisoners of all classes was 17,475 or 1,042 in excess of the total accommodation available. Taking into account the convict population alone (16,250) the capacity (14,809) fell short of requirements by 1,441. As in recent years, there was overcrowding in the convict population of nearly all the jails of the Province, especially in Lower Burma, and, at some four jails, even the accommodation for prisoners under trial was found to be insufficient. The congestion among convicts having assumed somewhat disquieting proportions, certain schemes are under consideration for obtaining relief, *e.g.* by the release of certain classes of prisoners who, from the state of their health, the period passed in jail, their conduct, etc., may be deemed to be deserving of clemency. It is also being considered if it is not possible to employ bodies of prisoners on public works, such as road-making, etc. The extensions to existing jails, so as to provide additional accommodation for convicts at Henzada and Mandalay, were completed during the latter part of the year, but, as the additional accommodation made available was not finally determined before the close of the year, it was not officially taken into account, though it was utilized to relieve overcrowding both at Henzada and Mandalay. The work of extending the Insein Central Jail, so as to provide additional accommodation for 896 convicts, is in progress. The number of prisoners employed on unremunerative labour was 81 or one in excess of the previous year.

Prisoners.

52. At the commencement of the year the jail population was 17,654, 43,700 were admitted and 43,069 were discharged from all causes, leaving the number in confinement at the close of the year at 18,285, the corresponding figures for the year 1914 being 16,595, 38,948, 37,889 and 17,654. The daily average strength of all classes rose from 16,652 to 17,475, the highest figure yet reached in the annals of the Jail Department of Burma; the increase was general *viz.*, convicts 541, under-trial prisoners 205, and civil prisoners 76. The number of juveniles, under 16 years of age, admitted into jail was 102 (97 boys and 5 girls) compared with 128 (122 boys and 6 girls), in the previous year; and 302 juveniles, against 332 in 1914, were sent to the jail to be whipped. There was a slight decline (27·63 to 27·03) in the percentage of re-convicted prisoners. As in the previous year, Henzada (46·84) heads the list of jails returning a high percentage of re-convictions; Bhamo was lowest with 8·49, while it was *nil* at Meiktila. Of the 44 juveniles (41 males and 3 females) under fifteen years admitted during 1915, 6 males had been previously convicted, the corresponding figures for the previous year being 57 (53 males and 4 females, with 7 males previously convicted). Twelve of the 41 male juveniles were transferred to the Reformatory School at Insein. As compared with the previous year, there was a decrease of 30, 34, and 18, respectively, in sentences of simple imprisonment, rigorous imprisonment with solitary confinement and rigorous imprisonment with whipping, while sentences of rigorous imprisonment increased by 1,767. The identification of habitual prisoners was effected, before conviction, in 5,542 cases, and in jails in 46 cases.

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Discipline.

53. The total number of recorded offences, including offences dealt with by Criminal Courts, was 31,694, or 5,166 more than in 1914. All classes of offences show an increase except those dealt with by Criminal Courts, which fell from 25 to 18, and those relating to prohibited articles, dealt with by Superintendents of Jails, by the award of major punishments, which declined from 901 to 675. Penal diet was awarded in 2,427 cases against 1,917 in the previous year, 1,810 in 1913 and 3,031 in 1912. Assaults of a serious nature, which ended fatally, numbered only 1, against 4 in the previous year. The number of whippings was 73, compared with 86 in the previous year. The number of escapes was 8—four from inside and 4 from outside the jail—compared with 2 in the previous year. Of the former, 5 were re-captured during the year. Though habitual convicts formed only 42·26 per cent. of the daily average convict population, they received 59·96 per cent. of the total punishments. Convict officers have, on the whole, worked satisfactorily.

Financial.

54. The total expenditure was Rs. 11,55,248, against Rs. 11,59,475 in the previous year, thus showing a decrease of Rs. 4,227. The gross cost per prisoner was Rs. 66-1-9, against Rs. 69-10-1 in 1914. The net cost per prisoner fell from Rs. 57-8-0 to Rs. 53-1-0. The value of vegetables raised in the jail gardens rose from Rs. 1,03,336 to Rs. 1,04,909, but that of the farm produce fell from Rs. 33,641 to Rs. 20,366. The saving to Government arising from the employment of prison labour on jail works and repairs was Rs. 22,703, as compared with Rs. 30,624 in 1914. The value of convict labour supplied to the Jail Branch Press is estimated at Rs. 55,950, or Rs. 518 less than in the previous year. No credit for this amount is taken in the jail accounts.

Vital.

55. The ratios, per mille, of admissions to hospital (291·33), daily average sick (15·85) and deaths (20·09) are the highest on record since 1911, except for the fact that, in that year, the ratio, per mille, of admissions to hospital was 307·35 and the following year the ratio, per mille, of deaths was 20·69. As in the previous year, the general health of the prisoners may be regarded as fairly satisfactory. Six different jails accounted for 13 cases of cholera, all of which proved fatal. At two jails, Ma-ubin and Taungdwingyi, there were no deaths. Among the central jails, Myingyan again headed the death rate with 27·68 per mille, and among the district jails Katha with 59·52 per mille. Akyab (42·49), Bhamo (42·45), Mogôk (34·81), Kyaukpyu (33·47) and Katha (25·77) returned the highest percentage of opium consumers admitted to jail. Of the 351 deaths, 40 were of persons addicted to the drug habit, the drug in most cases being opium or morphine. The abuse of morphine and cocaine was very prevalent among the admissions to the Rangoon Jail; while the same was found at Henzada in a lesser degree.

Miscellaneous.

56. The Juvenile Jail at Meiktila continued to be worked on the "Borstal system." The number of boys admitted was 102 and the daily average for the year was 110, against 128 and 119, respectively, in 1914. The training in the various trades continued to be carried out on the principles followed since the opening of this jail in 1909. The conduct of the boys was, on the whole, very good; three, who were likely to have had an evil influence on the other boys, were transferred to adult jails, the number so transferred in 1914 being 3. Grants of tools were made to 18 boys on release to enable them to carry on their trades. As regards other boys released, new suits of clothes were given to three and a money grant of 5 rupees to one. These grants are not made indiscriminately, but only to boys of good character who are considered likely to use them to gain an honest livelihood. The enquiries made in connection with the five sets of tools presented in 1914 show that in 3 cases the tools are being used for the purpose intended, in 1 case the ex-prisoner died and the tools are not traceable; while in the remaining case the tools were recalled as it was found that they were not being used. Good work continued to be done in the Vernacular School where the boys were taught up to the VII standard. The greatest number attending school on any one day was 112, compared with

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115 in 1914 and 104 in 1913. It is compulsory for every prisoner to attend school. The Director of Public Instruction, Burma, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Meiktila, visited the juvenile school during the year, and both of them spoke well of the work done. The ethical welfare of the boys is seen to by a Buddhist monk who visited the jail 54 times during the year; it is reported of him that he appears to exercise a great influence, for good, over the inmates of the juvenile jail. Besides preaching, he had personal interviews with refractory prisoners and persuaded them to adopt a better mode of life, with, it is believed, good results. All the central jails and the Toungoo district jail continued the scheme of manual training for youthful prisoners. The Akyab district jail introduced the scheme during the year. As mentioned in previous reports, the idea of the scheme is to instruct young convicts in handicrafts that will be helpful to them in earning their livelihood on release from jail. To assist them further in the matter, trained prisoners, who are found deserving of encouragement and are likely to follow the trades they are taught in jail, are presented with a set of tools, on release. The annual examination of the juvenile school in the Rangoon Jail was held on the 15th January 1916 by the Deputy Inspector of Schools who remarked that "on the whole, the work done is creditable, and the teacher seems intelligent and hardworking." As far as practicable with the structural arrangements obtaining in the several jails of this Province, habitual prisoners were kept separate from casual prisoners. Five thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight convicts were released under the remission rules, compared with 5,622 in the previous year. Of those coming under the remission system, none failed to gain remission, against one in 1914. The number of convicts awarded special remission for being free of punishment for a period of 12 months was 2,654, compared with 2,781 in 1914.

Civil Justice.

Courts.

57. The administration of Civil Justice is in Lower Burma under the control of the Chief Court, composed of five Judges, and in Upper Burma under the control of the Judicial Commissioner. Throughout the year 1915 as in previous years a sixth Additional Judge was appointed to the Chief Court as a temporary measure and an Additional Judge sat in the Court of the Judicial Commissioner. The judiciary in Lower Burma consisted of 36 Europeans and 146 Native Judges, and in Upper Burma of 55 European and 137 Native Judges. There were no changes in the constitution or jurisdiction of civil courts during the year. The total receipts of the courts were Rs. 26·96 lakhs as compared with Rs. 25·41 lakhs in 1914 an increase of Rs. 1·55 lakh.

Suits.

58. The number of suits instituted during the year in Lower Burma was 51,208 as compared with 44,154 in 1914. This increase of 7,054 brings the number of institutions back to a level slightly higher than the average of the years 1909-12. In the Chief Court of Lower Burma 342 suits were instituted as against 399 in 1914, and in the Court of Small Causes of Rangoon, which in 1914 reported an abnormal increase in the number of suits instituted, there was a fall from 9,566 to 9,348. The general increase was due chiefly to an increase in the number of suits for money or moveable property, and was divided fairly equally among all districts except Kyaukpyu. The increase in such suits was, in Township Courts from 23,763 to 29,653, in Subdivisional Courts from 880 to 1,382 and in District Courts from 420 to 585. In Courts outside Rangoon the number of suits for immoveable property fell from 1,497 to 1,097 and in the Chief Court of Lower Burma from 85 to 51. Mortgage suits increased in Township Courts from 915 to 1,323, in Subdivisional Courts from 316 to 367 and in District Courts from 129 to 182, the Akyab, Prome, Myaungmya, and Toungoo Districts being chiefly responsible for the increase. The aggregate value of suits instituted was Rs. 1,90·63 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 14·39 lakhs over 1914 and the highest figure recorded since 1909. In the Chief Court there was an increase of Rs. 9 lakhs which, however was due to the institution of one suit valued at Rs. 25 lakhs, in the Court of Small Causes of Rangoon an increase of Rs. 1·25 lakh, in

Subdivisional Courts an increase of Rs. 2 lakhs and in Township Courts an increase of Rs. 10·50 lakhs; the value of suits filed in District Courts decreased by nearly Rs. 9 lakhs for which the District Court of Amherst was responsible. In all courts except Subdivisional Courts there was a considerable decrease in the number of suits filed, the value of which could not be estimated in money. The number of suits disposed of was 51,338 as against 45,311 in 1914. Despite this increase the number of contested cases fell from 12,033, or 26·5 per cent., to 11,945, or 23·2 per cent. There was a small actual increase in the number of contested cases in which judgment was given for the plaintiff, but a fall from 4,001 to 3,557 in the number of contested cases in which the defendant was successful, the plaintiffs' percentage of success being 70·2 as against 67 in each of the two preceding years. The number of suits decreed on confession rose from 8,850 or 19·5 per cent. to 12,858 or 25·04 per cent. and the number decreed *ex-parte* from 11,718, or 25·8 per cent., to 13,367, or 26·03 per cent. There was an increase in the number of cases which were left pending at the close of the year from 5,156 to 5,643. Of these 5,643 as many as 2,339 had been pending for more than three months. The average duration of contested cases fell from 88 days to 77, and of uncontested from 48 to 45, as the result of the decrease in the percentage of contested cases. In District Courts the duration of contested cases increased from 222 to 241 days and that of uncontested cases remained unchanged at 123 days. In contested cases the average durations decreased in Subdivisional Courts from 173 to 154, in Township Courts from 67 to 63, and in the Court of Small Causes of Rangoon from 98 to 84. In Upper Burma the number of suits brought before the courts, which was 19,588 in 1914, increased to 21,188 in 1915, the same number as in 1911. As in Lower Burma the increase was chiefly in suits for money or moveable property from 17,315 to 19,410, while suits for inmoveable property and mortgage suits showed a considerable decrease. The principal increases were recorded in the Magwe, Yamèthin, Pakôkku, Myingyan, Lower Chindwin, and Mandalay Districts and were offset by substantial decreases in Bhamo and Myitkyina. The number of suits relating to immoveable property was 567 as compared with 744 in 1914. The only mortgage suits which came before the courts related to usufructuary mortgages of land and their number fell from 734 to 479. The number of matrimonial suits fell from 487 to 451 and those not falling under any specified class from 234 to 181. The aggregate value of suits filed was Rs. 35·26 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29·24 lakhs in 1914. Towards this increase the district of Magwe, where the title to oilwell sites of high value is a frequent subject of litigation, contributed Rs. 3·32 lakhs, and Mandalay, where a number of inheritance suits of high value were filed in the district court, Rs. 1·78 lakh. The number of cases before the courts for disposal was 23,231 as compared with 21,631 cases in the preceding year. The number of cases disposed of was 20,911 and the number pending at the close of the year 2,320 as compared with 1,963 in 1914. The number of cases decreed on confession increased from 4,896 to 6,278 and the number decreed *ex-parte* from 2,614 to 2,937 and as a result the percentage of the total number of cases which were contested fell from 26·47 to 23·28. The average durations of contested and uncontested cases were 77 and 40 days, the corresponding figures in 1914 being 73 and 44 days.

In Lower Burma the number of miscellaneous cases for disposal rose from 5,508 to 6,778 and the number pending at the close of the year was 825 as against 710. In Upper Burma 2,075 cases were before the courts for disposal of which 1,732 were decided as compared with 1,396 cases in 1914; the number of cases pending at the close of the year was 343 as compared with 312. The number of applications for execution of decrees before the courts in Lower Burma increased from 33,182 in 1914 to 38,176 in 1915, but the number pending at the close of the year only increased by 252 from 5,272 to 5,524. The total amount realised in execution was Rs. 20·81 lakhs, about Rs. 8 lakhs less than in 1914, a decrease more than accounted for by a fall in the amount realised in the Chief Court of Lower Burma of Rs. 9·25 lakhs to Rs. 6·53 lakhs. In Upper Burma the number of execution applications before the courts was 12,381 as against 11,469 in 1914. The amount realised increased from Rs. 6·03 lakhs to Rs. 6·12

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lakhs. The number of judgment-debtors arrested increased from 1,609 to 1,824 in Lower Burma and decreased from 1,274 to 1,209 in Upper Burma; in Lower Burma the number sentenced to imprisonment increased from 526 to 659 and in Upper Burma from 108 to 114. In Lower Burma there was a noticeable increase in the number of cases in which property both moveable and immoveable was sold in execution of decrees; the sales of moveable property rose from 675 to 1,080 and of immoveable from 966 to 1,468. Another notable increase took place in the number of applications under the Provincial Insolvency Act, the number of cases for disposal in Lower Burma being 663 as compared with 390 in the previous year, and in Upper Burma 299 as compared with 260. In Lower Burma 186 applications were dismissed and in Upper Burma 75. In Lower Burma the number of receivers appointed and the amount realised from the estates of insolvents both increased, but there was nevertheless a consensus of opinion that the Act requires drastic amendment before it can be considered suitable to the circumstances of the Province.

Appeals.

59. The number of appeals before the courts in Lower Burma during the year was 3,707 as compared with 4,294 in 1914. The number of appeals for disposal by District Courts against decrees of Township Courts, which was 1,829 in 1914, fell to 1,617 in 1915. Eighty appeals were dismissed summarily without the issue of notice to the respondent. The average duration of appeals in District Courts fell from 63 to 54 days. The percentage of cases in which the decree of the Township Court was confirmed was 62·6 as against 61·4, in which the decree was modified 8·1 as against 6·6, in which the decree was reversed 26·2 as against 29·9, and in which the case was remanded 3·2 as against 2·1. In Divisional Courts the number of appeals preferred during the year was 436; in 1914 there were 557. In these courts the average duration of appeals fell from 117 to 114 days. The percentage of confirmations was 63·3 as against 60·2, of modifications 11 as against 12·1, of reversals 22·7 as against 23·6 and of remands 3 as against 4·1. The number of miscellaneous appeals before all courts was 309 the same as in 1914. At the end of the year the number pending was 56 as compared with 61 at the end of the previous year. The percentage of cases in which the order of the lower court was confirmed was 67·59, nearly the same as in 1914.

In Upper Burma the aggregate number of appeals before the courts was 3,089 as compared with 3,549 in 1914. In District Courts the number of appeals fell from 2,060 to 1,773 of which 317 remained undisposed of at the close of the year. In Divisional Courts there were 24 appeals for disposal as against 25 in the previous year and 21 were disposed of. In District Courts the average duration of appeals was 70 days, the same as in 1914, in Divisional Courts the average duration increased from 80 to 85 days.

The Chief Court of Lower Burma.

60. The number of suits instituted in the Chief Court during the year was 342 or 57 less than in 1914. Suits for moveable property fell from 173 to 165 and for immoveable from 85 to 51. Mortgage suits rose by 8 to 53. The aggregate value was Rs. 66·87 lakhs as compared with Rs. 57·83 lakhs in 1914. But for one suit, estimated at Rs. 25 lakhs, there would have been a decrease in aggregate value of Rs. 16 lakhs. The number of suits disposed of was 383 as against 486 in 1914 and the number pending at the close of the year was 260 as against 301. Of the suits disposed of, 184 or 48·04 per cent. were contested, as against 45·27 per cent. in 1914. The average duration of contested and uncontested cases was 343 and 216 days respectively, the corresponding figures for 1914 being 361 and 230 days. Plaintiffs were successful in 75·5 per cent. of the contested cases decided in 1915, but in only 68·18 per cent. of those decided in 1914. The number of sales of immoveable property in execution of decrees was 37 as against 33 in 1914, but the total amount realized fell from Rs. 15·73 lakhs to Rs. 6·53 lakhs. In 1914 an exceptionally large amount of over seven lakhs of rupees was realized in one execution proceeding. Under the Insolvency Act 243 cases were disposed of and 110 remained pending at the close of the year, the corresponding figures for 1914 being 165 and 103. Discharges were granted to 145 debtors and in 83 cases applications for discharge were dismissed or

adjudication orders annulled. The number of regular appeals instituted in the Chief Court, which in 1914 was 495, fell in 1915 to 399, of which 110 were against original decrees and 289 against appellate decrees. This decrease was the natural result of the decrease in the number of suits instituted on the original side of the Chief Court and in the number of appeals preferred to District and Divisional Courts. The number of appeals disposed of rose from 479 in 1914 to 619 in 1915 and the number of appeals pending from original and appellate decrees fell from 176 and 366 to 110 and 212 respectively. The average duration of first appeals fell from 563 to 390 days and that of second appeals rose from 302 to 347 days. The decrees of lower courts and of the original side of the Chief Court, taken together, were confirmed in 64·13 per cent., revised in 25·52 per cent., modified in 5·97 per cent., and remanded in 4·36 per cent., of the total number of appeals disposed of; in 1914 the percentage of confirmations was 70·77. The number of cases before the Chief Court in revision was 291 of which 229 were disposed of and 62 pending at the close of the year; in 1914 of 329 revision cases before the Court 239 were disposed of and 90 left pending. Six appeals to the Privy Council were pending at the close of 1914; in 1915 eight applications were made for permission to appeal of which four were granted. One case was decided during the year 1915. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

61. The Judicial Commissioner had before him an aggregate of 845 appeals 433 of which were unfinished cases of the previous year. Five hundred of these were disposed of and a pending list of 345 appeals left at the close of the year. The previous year's figures were 999, 566 and 433, respectively. The share of the Additional Judge in the volume of disposals was 48 per cent. or 240 cases. The percentage of confirmation was 63·80 or 2·85 larger than in the preceding year and the average duration 328 days or 15 days higher than in 1914. Including 175 cases left undecided at the close of the previous year 447 cases came before the Judicial Commissioner on revision as compared with 465 in 1914. Of this number 280 cases or 10 fewer than in the previous year were disposed of and 167 left pending at the close of the year. The percentage of confirmations was 70·71 as compared with 77·59 in 1914. The average duration was 251 days or 21 fewer than in the previous year. About 41 per cent. or 115 cases were disposed of by the Additional Judge. The number of miscellaneous appeals and applications was 260 of which 47 had been pending from 1914, as compared with 230 and 35 cases respectively in the previous year. The number of cases disposed of was 213 as compared with 183 in 1914, and the number left pending 47. The Court of the Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma.

62. Fourteen persons were admitted as Advocates of the Chief Court, Lower Burma, during the year, two as first grade pleaders, seven as second grade pleaders and eleven as third grade pleaders. Nineteen first grade, 112 second grade and 45 third grade pleaders renewed their certificates during the year. The revision of the rules for the admission of Advocates was under consideration during the year. The rules for the admission of pleaders were amended so as to give the Honourable Judges more discretion with regard to the admission of candidates who passed a pleadership examination at a time when the educational qualifications required of candidates for admission were not so high as at the time of their application for admission. The number of Advocates' cases dealt with by the Judicial Commissioner of Upper Burma was 113 as compared with 132 in 1914. There was an increase of one case in the number for promotion and admission and of five miscellaneous cases, but a decrease of nine cases for renewal of licenses, ten for substitution and addition of districts in licenses, two of reports of deaths, and four of complaints of misconduct. Court-house accommodation in Lower Burma was again reported to be defective. General.

Registration.

63. Revised instructions were issued regarding the preparation and submission of the triennal report and of the intermediate annual notes on the administration General.

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of the Registration Department, and minor changes were made in the forms of the statements consequent upon the extension of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, to Upper Burma. The Indian Registration Act, 1908, and the Registration of Deeds Rules, 1913, were extended to 20 villages in the Myitkyina District with effect from the 1st January 1916. Registration of Deeds Rules 43, 49 and 50 were amended in order to conform with the provisions of section 52 (1) (*a*) of the Act. The provisions of the last paragraph of section 59 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882, were extended to the town of Mandalay. Minor amendments were made in Directions 34 and 57. Owing to the formation of the Sinbaungwe Township in place of the Thanbula Township in the Thayetmyo District a registration office was opened at Sinbaungwe, the office at Thanbula being abolished.

Deeds registered.

64. The number of compulsorily registrable documents affecting immovable property registered during the year was 72,233 as compared with 65,631 in the previous year, but the total value fell from Rs. 834·48 lakhs to Rs. 812·84 lakhs. There was a slight increase in value in Lower Burma which was more than counterbalanced by decreases of 26 and 11 lakhs respectively in the Minbu and Magwe Districts of Upper Burma. Instruments of sale of the value of Rs. 100 and upwards fell from 28,552 to 25,521 or by 10·6 per cent. and their value from Rs. 366·17 lakhs to Rs. 341·35 lakhs or by 6·8 per cent. There were marked fluctuations in many districts of Lower Burma, increases being recorded in Rangoon Town, Mergui, Hanthawaddy, and Myaungmya and decreases in Thatôn, Akyab, Pyapôn, Prome and Henzada. A decrease of Rs. 18·75 lakhs in value of the instruments registered in Minbu is due to the fact that a single document of abnormally large value was registered in 1914. Instruments of mortgage increased from 33,226 in 1914 to 43,409 or by 30½ per cent. while the aggregate value decreased by Rs. 53 lakhs from Rs. 410·47 lakhs to Rs. 357·42 lakhs. The decrease in the value is largely due to the fact that a mortgage of Rs. 47¼ lakhs was registered in 1914. A large increase in the number of transactions accompanied by a considerable decrease in the average value took place in most districts. Explanations given were, the low harvest price of unhusked rice, the fall in the value of land, and the desire of money-lenders to secure loans by mortgages of land. In Bassein, Myaungmya and Pyapôn a decrease in the number of mortgage transactions was caused by the refusal of chetty money-lenders to advance money on any security whatever. Generally speaking the same conditions prevailed in Upper Burma as in Lower Burma. The total number of registrations in Book IV increased from 6,171 in 1914 to 8,160 or by 32·2 per cent. and the aggregate value from Rs. 47·71 lakhs to Rs. 65·11 lakhs or by 36·5 per cent. Under the head "Instruments of sale, etc. of movable property" there were increases of 1,175 (72·5 per cent.) in number, and Rs. 10·37 lakhs (75 per cent.) in value, and under the head "Obligations for the payment of money" similar increases of 261 (12·2 per cent.) in number and Rs. 8·1 lakhs (63·8 per cent.) in aggregate value. The increases are attributed mainly to the depressed harvest market for unhusked rice combined with the high price of rice in the rains which led to forced sales by the poorer classes.

Income and expenditure.

65. Income derived from registration rose by Rs. 10,742 to Rs. 2,44,707 in correspondence with the net increase in the number of registered documents. Expenditure increased by Rs. 1,834 to Rs. 1,15,086 and amounted to 47 per cent. of the income from registration as compared with 48·4 per cent. in 1914.

Joint Stock Companies.

66. The number of joint stock companies limited by capital divided into shares at work in the Province declined from 114 at the beginning of the year to 106 at its close. The total authorised capital fell from Rs. 9,49·52 to Rs. 9,17·47 lakhs, subscribed capital from Rs. 6,24·24 lakhs to Rs. 5,72·21 lakhs, and paid-up capital from Rs. 5,77·61 lakhs to Rs. 5,38·08 lakhs. Six new joint stock companies, limited by shares, were registered during the year with a total authorized capital of Rs. 79 lakhs, Rs. 75 lakhs of which were however

represented by a single issue, Messrs. Macgregor & Co., Ltd. Eighteen companies increased their capital during the year; of these, two companies increased their authorized, subscribed, and paid-up capital, one company increased its subscribed capital, eight companies increased their paid-up capital, and seven companies increased both their subscribed and paid-up capital. The total increase of paid-up capital was Rs. 11·92 lakhs only. Seven companies reduced their capital during the year; of these, four companies reduced their subscribed capital, two companies reduced their paid-up capital and one company reduced both its subscribed and paid-up capital. The total reduction of paid-up capital was Rs. 2·25 lakhs. Fourteen companies having an aggregate authorized capital of Rs. 1,11·85 lakhs, subscribed capital of Rs. 50·33 lakhs, and paid-up capital of Rs. 49·19 lakhs wound up their business during the year. One company, the Burma Investments, Limited, accounted for more than Rs. 41 lakhs of the last figure. One Association, limited by guarantee, was registered during the year, raising the total number to 11. Thirteen companies, established outside British India, filed their papers under section 277 of the Act during the year, bringing the total number of companies registered to 129. The fees realised during the year amounted to Rs. 3,773 as against Rs. 5,848 in the previous year. The cost of the separate establishment amounted to Rs. 864.

Local Boards Administration.

67. There are no Local Boards in Burma. The District Funds in Upper Burma and the District Cess Funds in Lower Burma are administered by the Deputy Commissioners of the Districts to which they belong. Some account of their receipts and expenditure is given in Chapter V of this Report.

Municipal Administration.

68. The ordinary income of the Rangoon Municipality for the year was Rs. 44·19 lakhs as compared with Rs. 43·52 lakhs in the previous year. The incidence of taxation was Rs. 11-11-9 per head of population as compared with Rs. 11-7-11 in 1914-15 and the incidence of income Rs. 15-8-2 as against Rs. 15-4-5. No change was made in the number or rates of municipal taxes. The regular revision of assessments on buildings and lands was suspended in consequence of the continuance of the war. Revisions were made of the valuation of four mills or factories and of 293 other buildings whose owners filed objections to the existing valuation. The number of new buildings assessed to municipal taxation, including two rice mills in Dalla, was 1,577, situated chiefly in the West Theinbyu and Tamwe Circles where many houses were pulled down or burnt in the previous year and re-building was active. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, appealed to the Commissioner of the Pegu Division against the valuation of their property and the rates at which it was assessed to municipal taxation but, with the exception that scavenging-tax and water-tax were directed to be assessed at half rates only on uncovered land and land covered by rails only, the orders of the Municipal President were confirmed. The quarterly collection of the tax on private vehicles having proved expensive and inconvenient, proposals for its collection once a year only were submitted to the Local Government for sanction. The financial position of the municipality is dealt with in Chapter V of this Report.

Rangoon Municipality.

The total value of property destroyed by fire during the year was estimated at about Rs. 1½ lakhs, the lowest figure for ten years, and it is assumed that the increased efficiency of the fire brigade must have materially contributed to this gratifying result. Two new motor Hatfield pumps were added to the equipment. All the brigade appliances are now motor driven. Three new experimental "half watt" electric lamps of 500 candle power each were erected and 4 arc lamps were replaced by similar lights. In East Rangoon 73 lamps were converted from high to low tension. The number of oil street lamps was increased by 22 to 779. It was found impossible owing to lack of funds to carry out all contemplated improvements to the water-supply of the town, but a new 42-inch steel main was

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laid from Yegu pumping station to the service reservoir on Pagoda Hill. A scheme for the supply of water to Kemmendine from tube wells was considered to be too expensive and its revision was ordered. Anumber of new works in connection with the town water and sewerage system were completed, including the laying of a new water main and a new sealed sewage main in Strand Road, the extension of the water and sewage system to the area north of the maidan and the alteration and removal of private manholes in back drainage spaces. In East Rangoon an old and insanitary municipal market was closed and replaced by a new and well equipped building on a fresh site. An agreement was arrived at between the municipal committee and the Port Commissioners of Rangoon for the transfer to the latter of the Strand Market and the foreshore thereto adjoining, but action to carry it out was postponed indefinitely. It was found impossible owing to the scarcity of tonnage to obtain the materials necessary to carry out the programme of road improvement by means of asphalte paving and the laying of granite setts which had been arranged. Only two short lengths of roadway were laid with asphalte but a considerable number of roads were re-metalled and experiments were made with various materials for obtaining a durable hard surface. The expenditure on roads amounted to Rs. 9·23 lakhs. In connection with the preparation of a new Municipal Act an officer was deputed to Bombay to study the working of the system of municipal administration in that city and his report was published after the close of the year. By-laws for the regulation of the sanitary condition of dairies and places where milch cattle are kept and for the regulation of the sale of milk were under consideration by the committee and the Sanitary Commissioner, and were submitted for sanction to the Local Government. A re-constitution of the standing sub-committees and a re-distribution of the subjects dealt with among them was effected, and amendments were made in various other by-laws. A general election of members of the committee was held in November 1915 and aroused considerable interest. The number of births registered during the year was 5,791 as compared with 5,693 in the previous year, but the birth rate per thousand of the estimated population remained practically unaltered at 18·63. The rate varied from 32·76 in the Lanmadaw Circle to 9·9 in the Cantonment. The number of deaths, which in 1914 was 9,770, fell to 8,515, and the death rate on the estimated population fell from 31·86 to 27·40, a lower figure than any recorded in the previous five years. The number of infants dying before completing one year of life was 1,597. The resulting rate of infantile mortality, 275·77, though an improvement on 294·22 the figure for 1914, was still in excess of the rate for 1913 which was 269·06. There were 590 cases of plague with 571 deaths as compared with 1,669 cases and 1,586 deaths in 1914. Deaths from cholera numbered 99 as against 37 in 1914. Small-pox was much more prevalent than in the previous year, the number of cases and deaths increasing from 75 and 13 respectively to 318 and 94. The plague staff killed 429,465 rats during the year. Owing to the prevalence of small-pox the number of vaccinations increased very largely and, the supply prepared in the Municipal Depôt proving insufficient, it was found necessary to purchase lymph from the Government Depôt at Meiktila.

Minor Municipalities.

69. The number of minor municipalities was 44, as in the previous year. There was no alteration in any of their boundaries. The amount raised by taxation increased from Rs. 17·62 lakhs to Rs. 17·88 lakhs and the average incidence of taxation from Rs. 2-8-10 to Rs. 2-9-5. The incidence of income fell from Rs. 7-1-2 to Rs. 6-10-9. The following fresh taxes were imposed, latrine and scavenging taxes at Kyaiklat, a tax on motor-vehicles at Tavoy, a tax on vehicles at Minbu and Mandalay, a lighting tax at Salin, and a water tax at Mônywa. The financial position of the municipalities is dealt with in Chapter V of this Report. The general health of the inhabitants during the year was far from satisfactory. Twenty-seven municipalities reported an increase and fourteen a decrease in mortality, the increase in most cases being the result of plague or cholera epidemics. Mandalay suffered most severely from plague but there were also serious outbreaks at Prome, Bassein, Henzada and Myingyan, while in some of the smaller towns, such as Thônzè, Ngathainggyaung, Pyapôn and

Shwegyin, the plague mortality was above the normal. Inoculation as a prophylactic against plague continued to increase in popularity; in Sagaing the proportion of the population which adopted this measure of protection reached 88·87 per cent. and in Bassein, Henzada, Mandalay and Mônywa, the numbers were also large. Though the largest number of deaths from cholera took place in Prome, Pakôkku, Mandalay and Mônywa, the disease appeared in 31 out of the 44 municipalities in the Province. Sporadic cases of small-pox occurred in many municipalities but there were no serious outbreaks. The two recurring grants of Rs. 6 lakhs for urban sanitary improvements, together with refunds of unutilized grants of previous years amounting to Rs. 1·35 lakh, were fully allotted to municipalities and notified areas. The schemes for the execution of which these grants were made are dealt with in Chapter VI of this Report. There was an increase from Rs. 2·60 lakhs to Rs. 2·70 lakhs in expenditure on public safety. A disastrous fire took place at Pakôkku where buildings of an estimated value of Rs. 8 lakhs and property of an estimated value of Rs. 62 lakhs were destroyed. A smaller fire in Akyab destroyed 46 houses estimated to be worth Rs. 57,000. The aggregate expenditure on water-supply by the municipalities was Rs. 4·31 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·14 lakhs in the previous year. The construction of a reservoir for the supply of water to Pegu was approaching completion. A scheme for a water-supply to Ma-ubin, towards the cost of which the Local Government contributed Rs. 1·03 lakh, was expected to be in operation the following year. Work on a similar scheme for Kyaiklat was completed. Experimental tube-wells sunk at Pakôkku, Myingyan and Gyobingauk proved failures; of two at Shwebo one was a failure and the other partially successful. Total expenditure on drainage rose from Rs 1·06 lakh in the previous year to Rs. 1·30 lakh. Work was continued on the extension of the drainage system of Prome. At Toungoo a grant of Rs. 59,142 from the Local Government was expended on the construction of masonry drains. Considerable progress was made in carrying out the scheme for the surface drainage of Akyab. In Syriam the preparation of the surface by levelling and reclamation for the construction of streets and drains was continued. Reclamation of low-lying lands by means of sand and silt dredged from a tidal creek was carried out in Pyapôn and schemes for reclamation by similar methods in several other towns were under consideration. The Municipal Committee of Mandalay spent Rs. 25,002 on the construction of masonry drains. Expenditure on conservancy was Rs. 8·16 lakhs as against Rs. 8·14 lakhs in 1914-15. The largest increase in expenditure was in Bassein and was due to additions to the conservancy staff and the construction of new buildings. In Akyab measures were taken to enforce the reconstruction of insanitary latrines in the area of the town exclusively occupied by masonry buildings. Experiments were made in various towns with latrines made on the aerobic filter system with varying results. The employment of sanitary inspectors by Municipal Committees became nearly general. Expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries amounted to Rs. 6·08 lakhs as compared with Rs. 8·31 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease was caused by the stoppage of all expensive building or other original works. New hospitals were completed at Yandoon and Yamèthin and good progress was made with the new building at Toungoo. On markets and slaughter-houses the amount expended was Rs. 4·98 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·36 lakhs in 1914-15. New slaughter-houses, markets and store-rooms were constructed at Akyab, Sandoway, Paungdè and Mandalay and land was purchased for the extension of the bazaar at Wakèma. The work of construction of new, or repair of existing, buildings of this character was curtailed on account of the high price of, and the difficulty in obtaining, the necessary materials. Expenditure under the head of public works increased from Rs. 7·55 lakhs to Rs. 8·92 lakhs. The chief features were larger expenditure on roads in some of the municipalities in the Arakan, Tenasserim, Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions and in Myingyan, and on buildings in the Arakan and Irrawaddy Divisions. Expenditure on public instruction rose from Rs. 1·94 lakh to Rs. 2·14 lakhs. The accounts of all the municipalities save six were audited. Embezzlements were discovered in Bassein, Mandalay, Thayetmyo and Shwegyin and were in all cases rendered possible by non-observance of rules for the collection of taxes and other municipal dues, or

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

by general slackness in supervision. The municipalities of Moulmein, Prome, Mandalay and Pakôkku were reported for delay in taking action on audit notes.

The number of notified areas increased from 19 to 20 by the inclusion of Myitngè in the Mandalay District with effect from the beginning of 1916. The total receipts, excluding opening balances, fell from Rs. 9·26 lakhs to Rs. 8·39 lakhs and the total expenditure from Rs. 9·37 lakhs to Rs. 9·21 lakhs. The incidence of taxation rose from Rs. 2-2-9 to Rs. 2-4-5, but the incidence of income decreased by twelve annas to Rs. 7-12-8. Sanitary grants were made by Government as follows, Rs. 6,622 to Meiktila for a water-supply scheme, Rs. 39,965 to Maymyo for a septic tank and drainage scheme, Rs. 3,000 to Yenangyaung for a tube well and Rs. 1·2 lakh to Kalaw for a water-supply scheme. Cases of plague occurred in the notified areas of Thôngwa, Nyaunglebin, Minhla, Danubyu, Kyônpyaw, Yenangyaung and Meiktila. Kyônpyaw had a few cases of cholera and small-pox and Yenangyaung had an epidemic of cholera as well as a serious outbreak of plague. Minhla, Nyaunglebin and Pyawbwè also suffered rather severely from cholera, and eight cases occurred in Thôngwa.

Military.

Strength of the garrison.

70. The total strength of the troops forming the garrison of the Province on the 31st March 1916 stood at 7,747 officers and men, of whom 2,676 were Europeans, as against 7,609 officers and men, of whom 2,057 were Europeans, at the end of the previous year. In the Indian troops there were 92 British officers and 4,979 men of other ranks as compared with 83 British officers and 5,469 men of other ranks on the same date in 1915. British officers on the staff are not included in these figures.

Military works.

71. The total expenditure on military works was Rs. 5·25 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·80 lakhs in the previous year. The project of providing accommodation for the headquarters and six companies of British Infantry at Maymyo was finally completed, the total outlay having been Rs. 9·67 lakhs. The existing shingle roofs of the Indian Infantry Hospital and Quartermaster's office and store at Maymyo were replaced by Marseilles tiles at a cost of Rs 6,022. In Rangoon the construction of three quarters for junior married officers was completed at a total cost of Rs. 52,680. Good progress was made on improvements to the rifle-range at Thamaing in Insein District; the stop-butts, four ranges, markers' butts, paths, firing-platforms and three bridges were completed at a cost of Rs. 50,429. A block of two semi-detached quarters was provided for sergeant-instructors of the Rangoon Volunteers at a total cost of Rs. 19,806. The following works were completed in connection with the camp for prisoners of war at Thayetmyo, a barbed wire enclosure, temporary blocks for the accommodation of additional prisoners, conversion of stables into barracks for prisoners, fixing platforms in the lower floors of six barracks and the construction of eight new cook-houses for prisoners; the total cost was Rs. 63,155.

Military (Volunteering).

72. There were as in the previous year, six Volunteer Corps in Burma. The Rangoon Port Defence Volunteers, the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles and the Burma Railways Volunteer Corps have their headquarters in Rangoon, the Upper Burma Volunteer Rifles in Mandalay, and the Moulmein Volunteer Artillery and Moulmein Volunteer Rifles in Moulmein. Excluding 38 members of the South Andaman Volunteer Rifles, which for administrative purposes is attached to the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles, the total strength of the Volunteer force in Burma on the 31st March 1916 was 4,148 adults, 847 cadets, and 266 reservists as against 4,465, 1,039 and 208 respectively in 1915 and the number of efficients was 4,843 as against 5,283. The capitation grant earned was Rs. 1·80 lakh as compared with Rs. 1·97 lakh in 1914-15.

In the Rangoon Volunteer Rifles the formation of two new sections, one attached to "A" Company with headquarters at Toungoo and one attached to "N" Company with headquarters at Kanaungto, was sanctioned during the year. CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Marine.

73. On the improvements to the landings, etc., at the Alguada Reef Light-house there was an expenditure of Rs. 54,143. It is anticipated that the whole work will be finally completed by the close of next season. A second revised estimate of Rs. 2·47 lakhs is under consideration. The erection of new fittings for the China Bakir Light-house could not be undertaken for want of an adequate service of steam-tenders and lighters. The improvements to the Reef Island Light-house were completed. A Kirkaldy distilling plant for the supply of fresh water for work at light-houses was obtained at a cost of Rs. 6,090. The plant was erected at Alguada Reef and worked satisfactorily for nearly two months. On conclusion of the season's work it was dismantled and stored for future use. The only change made in the equipment of the light-houses was the installation of a 55 millimetre single mantle incandescent lamp at Reef Island, where the original fixed white light, burning kerosene oil, was replaced by an occulting white light, burning paraffin oil. The light-ships "Danidaw" stationed at the Baragua Flats, the "Kalagauk" stationed at the Krishna Shoal, and the "Kemmendine" stationed at the Spit, were brought in turn to Rangoon for annual overhaul being replaced during absence by the relief vessel the "Martaban." The unattended Wigham's patent light on the west end of Zallataung Island ceased to be exhibited from June 1915. The R.I.M.S. "Mayo" was the station vessel during the year and carried out all reliefs in connection with light-houses and light-ships, also conveying provisions and stores and men and materials for the Public Works Department. The "Mayo" was frequently absent from the station performing services required by the Government of India in the Military Department. There were no deaths at any of the light stations and the health of the light-keepers, both European and Indian, and of the crews of the light-ships, was good. The total expenditure on light-houses and light-ships increased from Rs. 2·01 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 2·66 lakhs. With effect from 1st May 1916 the rate at which coast-light dues are leviable under the Burma Coast-lights Act was raised from one anna and one pie to one anna and three pies per ton of burden. The receipts in 1915-16 from coast-light dues were Rs. 3·36 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·68 lakhs in the previous year. Light-houses and light-ships.

74. The curtailment of expenditure and the excess of receipts over anticipations resulted in the realisation of a surplus at the end of the year of Rs. 5·53 lakhs in the revenue accounts of the Commissioners for the Port of Rangoon in place of the deficit anticipated in the Budget. The receipts Rs. 45·38 lakhs were only six hundred rupees less than those of 1914-15. The expenditure, excluding contributions to reserve funds, was Rs. 39·85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 41·30 lakhs in 1914-15. At the close of the year the capital debt of the Port was Rs. 2,98·62 lakhs against which securities which cost Rs. 44·43 lakhs were held in the sinking fund. Expenditure on capital account fell to half a lakh of rupees and an attempt to raise a loan of seven lakhs to repay advances made from revenue account was unsuccessful. On the 31st March 1916 nearly thirty lakhs of rupees stood at the credit of the three reserve funds, the revenue reserve fund, the fire and marine insurance fund and the depreciation and replacement fund. The customs returns shew that 83·61 per cent. of the foreign and coasting trade of the Province passed through Rangoon. Of the imports 55·2 per cent. were landed on the Commissioners' premises and 44·8 per cent. were landed on private premises or discharged into inland vessels to be river-borne. Of the exports only 15·7 per cent. were shipped from the Commissioners' premises. The inland river-borne trade over the Commissioners' properties increased from 663,097 tons in 1914-15 to 717,655 tons. The revenue of the traffic department fell by Rs. 1,337 to Rs. 22·78 lakhs and the expenditure from Rs. 9·53 lakhs to Port Administration: Rangoon.

CHAP. III.—PROTECTION.

Rs. 8·75 lakhs. The total expenditure of the engineering department was Rs. 5·23 lakhs, no new work of any magnitude was undertaken, the usual maintenance and repair works and minor works were carried out efficiently and economically. The prices for work done were slightly higher all round than those of the previous year and the cost of stores and materials of European manufacture was constantly rising. The average sinkage along the top of the river training wall since its completion has been 5 inches only, the maximum being 8½ and the minimum 2½ inches. Periodical soundings proved that the apron was still performing its allotted functions by settling as scour proceeded. A careful watch for signs of abnormal scour was maintained and a large stock of stone kept in reserve for use in any emergency. The total accumulation of silt and sand in the embayment behind the wall was estimated at twenty-two million tons. Towards the end of the year it became necessary to dredge the approaches to the Kanaungto creek which shewed signs of silting up. The survey of the lower harbour was completed and the report, with tables and diagrams, printed. Excluding Government vessels 1,091 steamers with a total net registered tonnage of 2,173,539 entered the port, a decrease of 241,571 tons as compared with the previous year, and 1,099 steamers with a total net registered tonnage of 2,195,226 left the port. The receipts of the Port Department increased from Rs. 7·79 lakhs to Rs. 7·85 lakhs. The expenditure fell from Rs. 6·12 lakhs to Rs. 4·75 lakhs, principally owing to the transfer of expenditure under dredging, which in 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 1·02 lakh, from this head to River conservancy, under which there was an increase from Rs. ·86 lakh to Rs. 2·15 lakhs. A signal station with a telephone was opened at Syriam to facilitate communication between vessels below the Hastings and Rangoon and proved of great use. Dredging operations on the Hastings shoal were successful and a channel with an average depth of 14 feet at low water was maintained during the dry weather months. New surveys of the river bed of the harbour and of the river from Kemmendine to Liffey Reach and from Kyauktan to Elephant Point were completed. Eight members of the staff proceeded on active service. The services of Sir George C. Buchanan, Kt., C.I.E., Chairman of the Port Commissioners, and of Mr. E. C. Niven, Executive Engineer, River Conservancy, were placed at the disposal of the Government of India in connection with port administration and river conservancy in Mesopotamia. A survey party of 41 men with full equipment was also despatched. Questions under consideration during the year included the construction of new warehouses for the storage of salt and the provision of temporary accommodation for emigrants leaving the port. A redistribution of the cost of the Port Police between the Local Government and the Port Commissioners was sanctioned. Rules were promulgated for the control of motor and other launches plying on the river and the passenger boat rules were amended. The storm signals as revised by the Government of India were brought into use on the 1st January 1916. A long length of the river bank opposite the fixed moorings at Syriam fell into the river and the removal of one of the fixed moorings became necessary.

Pilot Service: Rangoon.

75. The Rangoon Pilot Fund opened with a balance of Rs. 43,254, the receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 3,07,377 and the payments to Rs. 3,36,751 leaving a closing balance of Rs. 13,880. The usual annual contribution of Rs. 21,000 to the vessels' depreciation fund was not paid and that fund only increased from Rs. 1·97 lakh to Rs. 2·04 lakhs. The gross pilotage fees increased from Rs. 3·03 lakhs to Rs. 3·07 lakhs and the payments to pilots from Rs. 2·25 lakhs to Rs. 2·26 lakhs. The pilot service was well maintained without any serious delays to shipping. Four cases of delay in all were reported, one for three hours forty minutes, one for three hours, one for fifty minutes and one for forty minutes. It was decided to postpone till after the war consideration of the new consolidated Rangoon Port Bill in which provision is made for the regulation of the Pilot Service.

Minor ports.

76. Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust there are six ports in the Province, Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Bassein, Moulmein, Mergui and Tavoy, in which Port Funds

are maintained. The total receipts and expenditure of these funds were Rs. 4·03 lakhs and Rs. 4·24 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·23 lakhs and Rs. 4·83 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The decrease in receipts in the case of Tavoy was accounted for by the fact that the previous year's receipts were swollen by a loan from the Local Government. Expenditure exceeded receipts in the Port Funds of Akyab, Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu which closed with smaller balances than in 1914-15. The position of the Moulmein Port Fund, despite an increase of about Rs. 6,000 in the amount of its closing balance, remained unsatisfactory inasmuch as the repayments of instalments of principal and interest of loans which fell due in April 1915 and April 1916 could not be made and were postponed till April 1917. The means of meeting the liabilities of this fund and placing its finances on a sound basis are under consideration. The postponement of the repayment of the first instalment of the loan of Rs. 65,000 from the Local Government to the Port Fund of Tavoy for one year was sanctioned. At the end of the year the Moulmein Port Fund owed the Local Government Rs. 70,813 and the Tavoy Port Fund owed Rs. 69,631.

Outside Rangoon there are pilot funds at Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. These funds derive their income from pilotage fees and the expenditure consists of cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and payments to pilots. The aggregate receipts of the three pilot funds increased by Rs. 16,213 to Rs. 1·13 lakh and the aggregate closing balances from Rs. 15,895 to Rs. 17,126. Port Officers appointed by Government and assisted by advisory boards continued to manage the ports of Akyab, Bassein and Moulmein. The administration of the ports of Kyaukpyu, Tavoy and Mergui is in the hands of the Deputy Commissioners. These ports have no pilot funds.

Commercial marine: shipping.

77. The effects of the war on the maritime trade of the Province continued. The number of vessels entering ports in Burma increased from 3,766 in 1914-15 to 4,571 but their aggregate tonnage fell from 3,355,534 tons to 2,917,515 tons. The number of ships clearing increased in the same way from 3,505 to 4,244 but the tonnage decreased from 3,325,296 tons to 2,949,902 tons. The total number of entries of vessels engaged in the foreign trade was 421 with an average tonnage of 2,244 tons as compared with 391 vessels with an average tonnage of 2,345 tons in the previous year. The clearances were 460 vessels with an average tonnage of 1,995 tons as against 457 vessels with an average tonnage of 2,312 tons. The entries into Rangoon from foreign ports were 312 vessels with a tonnage of 808,966 tons as against 263 with a tonnage of 775,819 tons, and the clearances 297 with a tonnage of 756,850 tons as against 313 with a tonnage of 909,897 tons. The number of sailing ships clearing from the port, which in 1914-15 was one of 172 tons burden, increased to 5 with a total tonnage of 8,348 tons. In the coasting trade the number of entries of sailing craft increased from 1,509 in 1914-15 to 2,674 in the year of report, and the tonnage from 51,254 tons to 77,835 tons. The number of sailing craft cleared increased in the same period from 1,239 to 2,289 and the tonnage from 44,415 tons to 70,669 tons. There was a further considerable decline in the number of both entrances and clearances of steamers engaged in the coasting trade. In the year of report 1,476 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 1,895,063 tons entered, and 1,495 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 1,961,496 tons cleared, as against 1,866 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 2,387,387 tons entering and 1,809 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 2,224,347 tons clearing in the previous year. Of the vessels engaged in the coasting trade 782 steamers with an aggregate tonnage of 1,371,434 tons entered Rangoon as against 966 with an aggregate tonnage of 1,634,419 tons in 1914-15, and 799 steamers with a tonnage of 1,427,808 tons cleared, as against 911 with a tonnage of 1,484,802 tons in 1914-15, while 112 sailing ships with a tonnage of 7,916 tons entered as against 100 with a tonnage of 7,938 tons, and 118 with a tonnage of 8,521 cleared, as against 96 with a tonnage of 7,646 tons in the previous year. The total net registered tonnage of vessels entering the port was 9·48 per cent. less than in 1914-15 and was the lowest recorded for the previous ten years.

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Of the 421 steam and sailing vessels that entered the ports of the Province from foreign ports during the year, 325 or 77·20 per cent. flew British colours. Of the 96 vessels flying foreign colours 40 were Japanese, 32 Norwegian, 19 Dutch, 3 Swedish and 2 Chinese. In the previous year of the 391 vessels entering, 303 or 77·49 per cent. flew British colours, and of the 88 flying foreign colours 29 were Japanese, 28 Norwegian and 8 Dutch. The proportion of the total number of the ships flying foreign colours contributed by each country has thus not materially altered during the year. In the coasting trade 1,271 vessels, as against 1,583 in the previous year, flew British colours, and 75 as against 86 flew foreign colours. The number of native craft was 2,000 as against 1,024. In the foreign trade of Rangoon 223 vessels entered under British colours as against 188, and 89 under foreign colours as against 75 in 1914-15. Of the latter 37 were Japanese as against 29, 32 Norwegian as against 23, 18 Dutch as against 8 and 2 Chinese against none, in the previous year. In the coasting trade of Rangoon 807 British vessels, including 109 native craft, and 87 foreign vessels, entered, as against 973 British, including 97 native craft, and 93 foreign vessels, in the previous year. The foreign comprised 54 Japanese as against 36,29 Dutch as against 28, 2 Norwegian as against 13,1 Swedish as against none and 1 Dutch as in the previous year.

The freight market in Rangoon continued almost without interruption to rise throughout the year. Owing mainly to the requisitioning by Government of steamers for transport purposes rates ruled abnormally high. At the close of the year 1914-15 the rate of freight from Rangoon to the United Kingdom reached what was then considered the abnormal level of 80 shillings per ton. The rate rose steadily and in February reached the level of 170 to 175 shillings per ton, falling at the close of the year to 150 shillings owing to the release by Government of several transports for single voyages with rice cargoes. At the end of the year there was a slight tendency towards lower rates but everything depended on the requirements of Government for tonnage in connection with the war.

Commercial marine: wrecks and casualties.

78. During the year there were 13 accidents to shipping in the port of Rangoon as compared with 12 in the previous year. Of the 13 accidents reported 12 occurred while a vessel was in charge of a pilot or assistant harbour-master. In only three cases was a judicial enquiry held under the British Burma Pilots Act, and in all it was held that the accident was due to an error of judgment on the part of the pilot. On two occasions steamers came into collision with the pilot vessel at anchor. In no case did any serious damage result from an accident. A special court of enquiry was constituted under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act in connection with a collision between the S.S. "Bulimba" and a cargo-boat in the Tavoy River, and on 15th April regulations were issued to minimise the possibility of similar accidents. The S.S. "Pinegrove," bound for Rangoon with a cargo of salt, grounded on Ras-al-Ara Point in the Gulf of Aden on 12th June 1915, but got off without damage to ship or cargo. The S.S. "Chindwin" while on a voyage from Liverpool to Rangoon went aground on Jebel Zukur island in the Red Sea on 28th June 1915 and remained aground till 4th July when she was refloated and proceeded on her voyage. The case was reported to the Board of Trade, London, for enquiry. The S.S. "Hok Canton" went aground when leaving the port of Mergui on the 10th September 1915 but got off undamaged and proceeded on her voyage. No enquiry was held.

Government steamers and launches.

79. The Royal Indian Marine vessel "Sladen" was stationed throughout the year in Rangoon as examination ship; the "Bhamo" carried by river about 2,300 troops and followers, besides women and children, convicts, transport animals, ammunition and 2,153 tons of stores. The total earnings rose from Rs. 2·02 lakhs to Rs. 2·19 lakhs, principally on account of the hire of the "Sladen." Five steam-launches, six motor-launches, two barges and one cargo-boat were added to the Government flotilla, and at the close of the year there were in Upper and Lower Burma 167 Government vessels consisting of 94 steam-launches, 3 steam-barges, 1 steam-cutter, 16 motor-launches, 13 house-boats, 13 flats, 7 barges, 1 water-boat, 1 rock-smasher, 1 pony-boat, 4 light-ships, 6 dredgers, 2 buoy-

vessels, 2 mooring-boats and 3 cargo-boats. Four steam-launches and one buoy-vessel were employed during part of the year on patrol service off the coast of Burma and in inland waters in Bengal. Five steam-launches, one steam-cutter and one dredger were requisitioned by the Government of India for service in Mesopotamia. The total earnings of Government vessels for the year amounted to Rs. 6·52 lakhs as against Rs. 5·59 lakhs in the previous year, an increase of Rs. 93,228. The Police, Telegraph, Customs and other boats in various districts were in good condition and fully employed; one boat of the Telegraph Department was condemned and replaced and one was lost in a cyclone. Eleven launches and four flats were docked at the patent slip in Mandalay, and the Burma Government steamer "Buccaneer" was hauled up for a complete refit. The slipway was cleared of 45,000 cubic feet of silt deposit. The wood and coal depôts continued to supply requirements and the arrangements carried out by the Forest Department, for the supply of wood fuel were satisfactory. The value of the stores received in the store godowns at Mandalay, Bassein and Rangoon was Rs. 98,097 and the value of stores issued Rs. 1·31 lakh. The outturn of work at the Marine Workshop, Mandalay, was valued at Rs. 66,093 as against Rs. 1,01,339 in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 35·246 was due to a decrease in the amount of the work done for other departments and in the demand for sawn timber. The cost of repairs to vessels and of work carried out in the Government Workshop, Rangoon, was Rs. 3,00,043 as compared with Rs. 2,00,751 in 1914-15. The increase of Rs. 99,252 was caused by repairs to some privately-owned launches employed on military duty, by repairs to His Majesty's ships patrolling in the Bay of Bengal, and work done in connection with the defence of Rangoon.

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80. The suction dredger "Cormorant" was kept at work dredging on the Hastings shoal at the lower end of the harbour of Rangoon during the whole of the year. In the Hastings channel and the Dunneedaw Reach she lifted 1,576,000 tons at a working cost of one anna per ton. The result was eminently successful as all through the dry weather months a channel averaging 14 feet at low water was maintained across the Hastings shoal. Two moorings in the inner harbour had to be disused for long and deep ships owing to the extension of the Kamakasit shoal. The dredger "Hastings" was put to work to deepen this portion of the harbour but without much effect. Complete new surveys of the bed of Rangoon harbour and from Kemmendine to Liffey Reach and from Kyauktan to Elephant Point were taken in hand and completed. The area was re-coast-lined, all shore details put in and corrected up to date, and the sheets newly plotted. The lower harbour survey was completed and the report, with tables and diagrams, printed. Harbour works included the reconstruction of a jetty for the port of Bassein on a new site, and the construction of a jetty at Andrew Bay in Sandoway District estimated to cost Rs. 62,232. The erection of a landing stage at Thayetkôn in the same district was in progress and materials were obtained for the construction of a landing stage at Pauktaw and the improvement of the landing stage at Ponnagyun in Akyab District.

Marine works and surveys.

CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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Agriculture.

Occupied and cultivated areas.

81. The occupied area of the Province is now 18,229,162 acres. The rate of expansion during 1915-16 again shewed a decrease as compared with the previous year, the area taken up in the year for agricultural, residential and industrial purposes being only 113,000 acres as compared with 178,000 acres in 1914-15. This expansion is less than one half of that recorded in 1913-14. The total area fallowed was 4,139,666 acres of which 3,344,036 acres were contributed by the three dry zone divisions, Magwe, Meiktila and Sagaing. The provincial total shews an increase of 261,641 acres on the figures of the previous year, the percentage of the occupied area which was fallowed being 22·7 as against 21·4. The increase is due to the indifferent agricultural season and the high floods along the Irrawaddy. The area actually cultivated during the year was 14,089,496 acres, a decrease of 148,434 acres on a comparison with the figures of 1914-15. The area on which crops matured was 13,193,966 acres as compared with 13,199,359 acres in 1914-15, a decrease of 5,393 acres. The gross area cropped, inclusive of areas which failed, was 14,662,444 acres, a decrease of 130,718 acres as compared with 1914-15, but approximating closely to the figures of 1913-14. The total area twice cropped was 572,948 acres, an increase of nearly 18,000 acres over the figures for 1914-15. This increase was mainly in districts of the dry zone and was due to the system of catch-crops followed there. The net cropped area, owing to the increase in twice cropped area, shews a greater decrease than the gross cropped area.

All the principal Lower Burma districts in which rice is the main crop, with the exception of Toungoo, contributed in fairly equal proportions to a total increase of 80,761 acres in the occupied area of these districts. Throughout Lower Burma generally there was a decrease in the rate of expansion for which three main causes were responsible. The supply of suitable land is decreasing; pioneer work requires capital and the money market was unfavourable; the prices realised in 1914-15 by the cultivator were comparatively poor and the amount of savings available for bringing new land under cultivation consequently less. The fallowed area was considerably larger in the majority of districts, Henzada, Thatôn, Amherst and Pegu being the only districts in which it decreased. The season was favourable in these districts and the inference from the figures is that speculative cultivation received a check, as the result probably of the low prices realised by the crop of the previous year and of general financial stringency. On a comparison with the previous year the area in Lower Burma which failed to mature was less by 110,081 acres. In Upper Burma the occupied area was 41,027 acres in excess of that of 1914-15, the rate of expansion being less than usual. The area fallowed increased by 187,264 acres, the increase being contributed to by all the districts save Mandalay and Katha, shewing very clearly the untimely nature and uneven distribution of the rainfall Uncropped areas were particularly extensive in Meiktila, Myingyan, Shwebo and Magwe. Owing to the nature of the season there was less speculative cultivation than usual and only soils of the better class were put under the plough. As a result the area over which crops failed to mature was 28,831 acres less than in 1914-15.

The area under rice was 10,404,119 acres, a decrease of 117,622 acres on a comparison with 1914-15. The decrease took place chiefly in the Meiktila and Sagaing Divisions where the season for winter rice was unfavourable. The area under wheat increased from 29,221 acres in 1914-15 to 41,224 acres in the year of report. The area under red millet declined from 483,463 to 452,158 acres while that under white millet increased from 172,162 to 183,869 acres. These two cereals have in recent years become less popular with the cultivators of uplands in the dry zone. The area cropped with maize increased from 158,483 to 167,189 acres and that cropped with little millet (*lu*) from 80,354 to 92,999 acres. The excessive early rains account for a decrease of about 16,000 acres, in the area devoted to early sessamum, from 874,270 to 857,836 acres, while the favourable character of the late rains is reflected in an increase from 336,471 to 343,423 acres in the area under late sessamum. Prices for groundnuts in 1914-15 were poor and the area fell from 273,316 to 261,764 acres. Excluding the Goa bean which is not a bean strictly speaking the area cropped with beans of all varieties was 615,470 acres, an increase of 92,799 acres as compared with the previous year. Prices for cotton in 1914-15 were extremely low and the area under this crop shrank from 291,113 to 187,312 acres, a decrease of nearly 104,000 acres. There was a decrease of 10,000 acres under tobacco, from 88,511 to 78,564 acres, beans, maize and chillies being substituted. There was practically no expansion in rubber cultivation. Gardens do not keep pace with the general increase in the cultivated area of the Province.

Area irrigated.

82. The estimated area irrigable in the Province is 1,633,331 acres of which the greater part is situated in the dry zone. The sources of irrigation are two, Major Works and Minor Works, the latter mostly tanks. In the former the rainfall is of secondary importance, unless a breach is caused; in the latter rainfall is all-important for filling the tanks and maintaining the water in them at a level sufficient to ensure a sufficient supply to mature the crop. The area actually irrigated from all sources was 1,159,077 acres or 26,029 acres more than in 1914-15. There was an increase of 14,224 acres in the area irrigated from Government canals, to which all the systems of importance except the Shwebo Canal contributed. There was also an increase of 11,339 acres in the area irrigated from private canals. In Magwe owing to favourable conditions the area irrigated from private canals increased from 47,137 to 63,341 acres. In many of the dry zone districts the rainfall was insufficient to fill or maintain the water level in the tanks, and the area irrigated from Government and private tanks fell by about

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24,000 and 15,000 acres respectively. Most of this decrease took place in Meiktila and Yamèthin, the two districts most dependent on this form of irrigation. Under the head "Other Sources" the area irrigated from which increased from 229,433 to 267,227 acres are comprised various forms of irrigation such as the irrigation of spring rice by lift in the Mandalay and Thatôn Districts, the planting up of fisheries as the water recedes in Bassein and Katha and petty canals taking off from restricted catchment areas and supplementing the rainfall. The increase of 37,794 acres under this head was due partly to the enterprise of some village headmen in the Shwebo District who tapped streams and irrigated 14,600 acres, and partly to the fact that revised classification in the recent settlement in Toungoo has added 24,000 acrs at to the area classified as irrigated in that district.

The Agricultural Department: General.

83. There was no change in the superior staff of the Agricultural Department during the year and lack of funds rendered it impossible to fill the appointment of third deputy director sanctioned during the previous year. The educational work of the department in the year of report was mainly devoted to the practical training of its subordinate staff. Three district agriculturists completed their course and five more were under training. In twelve districts a district agriculturist has been appointed, paid from District or District Cess Funds, but working under the orders of the deputy director of the circle in which his district is situated, and as a rule directing his energies to the popularisation and distribution of the improved seed produced on the experimental stations, the demonstration of improved implements suited to local conditions, and the general study of the agriculture of the district and supply of information to the deputy director to enable him to advise on the introduction of new crops or the adoption of improved methods. It was decided that the most satisfactory method of seed distribution was by the establishment of district seed and demonstration farms, each varying from 15 to 28 acres in area, managed by the district agriculturist and serving as his general depôt and demonstration centre. The use by cultivators of seeds which have proved successful on the district farms will be encouraged through the agency of co-operative credit-societies or of selected cultivators. At the end of the year five district farms had been established. In the southern circle 110 tons of seeds were distributed from Hmawbi and the Yedashe seed farm. In the northern and southern circles the total value of the implements sold by the department was Rs. 3,701 and Rs. 3,440 respectively. The universal increase of prices caused by the war has restricted the development of this branch of activity. No agricultural shows were held during the year. District agricultural and co-operative associations were formed in several districts and are expected to be of much help in the cause of improvement. Two bulletins and two cultivators' leaflets were published. The Provincial Agricultural and Co-operative Conference was held at Mandalay in August 1915 under the patronage of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor who took the chair at the opening meeting. Nearly a thousand delegates were present from all parts of the Province and several subjects of great importance to local agriculture were discussed.

Agricultural experiment and research.

84. The main experimental station of the northern circle is at Mandalay and is chiefly devoted to work on irrigated rice. There are two subordinate stations at Padu in Sagaing and Hopin in Myitkyina District. A sub-overseer is in charge at Hopin; at Padu there is no trained resident staff. Hopin is of importance in connection with the colonization of waste land lying to the north of it and the discovery of profitable crops to take the place of rice. Padu is mainly devoted to open season cultivation with wheat and gram, work in the monsoon being confined to a small area of upland where various crop rotations are being tried. In the southern circle experimental work on the varieties of rice grown in Lower Burma is concentrated at Hmawbi in the Insein District which is now equipped with permanent buildings. Work on dry crops is carried on at the Tatkôn station in Yamèthin District where only temporary buildings have been put up and considerable improvements are required. It is proposed to transfer a small station at Pwinbyu to the District Fund of Minbu to be maintained as a

district seed farm. The work of clearing the jungle and laying out plots for an experimental station at Yawnghwe in the Southern Shan States was in progress. The Myitkyina experimental garden was closed. At the Falam garden orange trees from the Shan States did well and preparations were made for putting down young orange plants from Aijal in Assam. A number of samples of improved strains of unhusked rice from Mandalay, sent to the Burma Chamber of Commerce for opinion, were pronounced to be greatly superior to the best unhusked rice of the same variety obtainable at the mills. The types of rice hitherto dealt with on the experimental farms have been chiefly those suitable for the European market. Work has now begun on the finer long grained varieties of rice suitable for the Indian market and pure lines of many of these have been made. A number of interesting agricultural and manurial experiments were carried out at Mandalay and Hmawbi, the general results of which tend to prove that the use of artificial manures and oilcakes in rice cultivation will not pay. Bone meal proved profitable on certain classes of soil and if a sufficient supply at a reasonable price were available it should prove very popular with the cultivators of worn out soils in certain tracts of Lower Burma. The advantages of thinly sown nurseries and double planting in rice cultivation were again demonstrated by experiment. Experimental work on cotton is mainly conducted at the Tatkôn station. Of the single plant selections made here in 1914 four strains are being propagated on a field scale this year, while seed has also been sent to the district farms at Taungtha in Myingyan and Allanmyo in Thayetmyo District. These strains have been selected mainly for ginning percentage and the best of them shows 39 per cent. of lint or a gain of between 5 and 6 per cent. over the unselected crop which usually varies from 31 to 33 per cent. The strain will undergo continuous selection at Tatkôn in order to maintain the high ginning percentage. The late upland cotton of Prome and Thayetmyo Districts, the best cotton in Burma, has a normal ginning percentage of 38; a plant with a percentage of 45 has been isolated and its seed carefully stored and it is hoped to establish the strain. During the year 145 single plant cultures of sessamum were made at Tatkôn and are this year sown out in plots of ten feet by ten in order to see how far they breed true and to make further selections from them.

A scheme is under preparation for the classification of the varieties of sessamum in the Province. Six new varieties of groundnut have been imported and are being tested against the indigenous kinds on the seed farms of the Myingyan, Pakôkku and Thayetmyo Districts. An interesting experiment with this crop was made at Hopin where, with a rainfall of 79·72 inches, two plots of sandy soil produced at the rate of 2,296 lb. and 3,155 lb. per acre respectively of good nuts. Work on castor cultivation was undertaken at Tatkôn and Padu. A field scale trial of several varieties at the former station showed one variety of large seeded castor to be much superior in yielding power to the others. The crop was troublesome to work, its picking had to go on through the hot weather and any considerable expansion of its cultivation is not to be expected. The yield of sugar-cane tried on ordinary paddy land at Hmawbi was unsatisfactory but the experiments are being continued. In the Môn Canals area in the Minbu District experiments with sugar-cane have attracted the attention of local cultivators and about 72 acres are now under the crop. Conditions are favourable, the soil being good and the supply of water from irrigation abundant. There are indications that sugar-cane may prove the most suitable crop to replace rice in the intermediate tract lying between the wet and the dry zones where unirrigated rice is proving unreliable. Work on wheat was undertaken at Padu, Yawnghwe and Hopin. At Padu selection work on *durum* wheats progressed but at least another year's work is required before selections for distribution can be made. At Yawnghwe selection of bread wheats suitable for the Shan States was begun. At Hopin the problem was to discover the best time and method of cultivation with a view to the encouragement of this crop in place of rice in the Myitkyina portion of the Namyin valley. Some advance was made and ultimate success seems probable. Trials of pigeon pea were continued at Mandalay, Tatkôn, Padu, Bugyi and Hopin. The best outturn was 990 lb. per acre obtained at Tatkôn from a large white seeded variety from the United Provinces. The cultivation

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of this crop is extending in the Yamèthin and Shwebo Districts. Experiments with the Madagascar bean are continued but results hitherto obtained leave its suitability to the conditions of the Province very doubtful. Several varieties of tobacco were grown under irrigation on the garden land at Hmawbi and samples of the product were favourably reported on. Further experiment is however required before the best method of curing the leaf can be decided on. The enquiry conducted by the Imperial Mycologist into the "black thread" disease of rubber was completed and the results published in a departmental bulletin.

In the chemical branch of the department 877 analyses were completed exclusive of analyses connected with the milk supply of Mandalay, soil humus determination and prussic acid determination. The examination of typical rice soils by pot culture tests and chemical analysis was continued, 12 soils being examined and 280 pot cultures made. An enquiry was begun into the nature and source of the acidity in certain soils which had been noted as producing a very irregular growth of rice and its effect on the crop. Work on the determination of soil humus and on field culture of rice was continued.

Veterinary Department Staff and Veterinary School.

85. Excluding superior officers the staff of the veterinary department during the year consisted of 14 inspectors and 150 veterinary assistants as compared with 14 inspectors and 141 assistants in 1914-15. The total cost of the department was Rs. 2·76 lakhs as against Rs. 2·53 lakhs in the previous year; of the total Rs. 2·05 lakhs were paid from provincial and Rs. ·71 lakh from local funds. The number of pupils receiving instruction in the Veterinary School at Insein was 50 at the beginning of the year and 59 at its close. The conduct of the students and the examination record were again satisfactory. Three veterinary assistants were trained in a post graduate class in order to qualify them for appointment as inspectors. The number of animals treated at the hospital was 1,866, of which 1,550 were out-patients and 316 in-patients, the average daily attendance rising from 22·5 to 29·03. In the laboratory 5,406 specimens were examined, of which 2,049 were submitted by veterinary assistants and others in the Province. A tube well was sunk and a sufficient supply of water will be available when the necessary pipes have been laid. The construction of a laboratory has been postponed.

Cattle disease.

86. The Province enjoyed a remarkable freedom from contagious diseases of cattle and the number of deaths reported, 7,210 compared with 10,115 in 1914-15, was the lowest on record and just over a fifth of the average mortality of the previous ten years. The number of deaths from rinderpest fell from 5,698 to 3,589 and from foot-and-mouth disease from 2,699 to 1,782. In only three districts, Amherst, Toungoo and Yamèthin did the number of deaths from rinderpest exceed five hundred. In Amherst the disease was confined to the border township of Kawkareik and was almost certainly imported from Siam, cattle from which arrive worn out by the journey and extremely susceptible to the disease. In Toungoo the disease was present in several townships simultaneously and 663 cattle in all died. More than half the total number of deaths from rinderpest in Upper Burma occurred in the Yamèthin District, 554 out of 1,082. In Akyab District there were 394 deaths principally in the Maungdaw Township. In the trans-Salween portion of the Southern Shan States a severe epidemic of rinderpest caused an estimated loss of about 1,800 animals. In the Northern Shan States 647 deaths among buffaloes and oxen from the same cause were reported. The only districts from which over a hundred deaths from foot-and-mouth disease were reported were Bassein with 364, Myaungmya with 262, Thayetmyo with 162 and Pakôkku with 147. Anthrax accounted for 1,839 deaths in all as compared with 1,718 in 1914-15; the districts reporting more than a hundred deaths from this cause were Akyab 678, Myaungmya 204 and Shwebo 116. Anti-rinderpest serum inoculation was employed in three districts and the number of animals treated was 6,814; in 1914-15 operations were carried out in eight districts on 9,649 animals. The number of deaths among inoculated cattle fell from 182 to 29. The number of animals treated by the department for contagious diseases during the year was 50,725 and for non-contagious diseases

44,036, figures which compare with 32,364 and 39,588 in 1914-15. The number of deaths reported from non-contagious diseases was in Lower Burma 60,891 and in Upper Burma 18,561. The persistency with which the most serious outbreaks of rinderpest occur in frontier districts has led to the consideration of special measures for watching the importation of cattle in the hope that in this way protection may be afforded to the herds of the interior of the Province. The necessity for segregation in case of an outbreak of contagious disease is generally recognized and with few exceptions the rules are voluntarily carried out by the people. Difficulty was experienced in controlling the trade in the hides of animals which had died of contagious diseases such as anthrax.

Stock.

87. The year was generally favourable for live-stock. There was a slight decline, from 1,189,158 (revised figures) to 1,170,200 in the number of calves of oxen and from 298,545 (revised figures) to 293,062 in the number of buffalo calves. This decrease took place principally in districts of Upper Burma and was greatest in the Meiktila Division where the season was particularly unfavourable. Among oxen there was little variation in the number of cows and of bulls and bullocks, the figures for 1915-16 being 1,524,556 and 2,053,166 and for the previous year 1,537,596 and 2,052,333. The number of buffalo cows increased from 408,091 to 412,941 and of male buffaloes from 379,856 to 380,387. Among horses there were 16,122 foals, 41,981 mares, 36,715 geldings and 3,956 stallions as compared with 15,104 foals, 38,366 mares, 37,424 geldings and 4,177 stallions in 1914-15. Sheep increased in number from 34,201 to 36,985. Goats are mainly owned by the Indian population and the numbers remain fairly constant, 195,876 as against 195,601. For the second year in succession an enumeration was made of the number of pigs in the Province and the total was found to be 335,399 as compared with 336,490 in 1914-15.

Agricultural loans.

88. Exclusive of advances to co-operative societies, the agricultural advances made amounted to just under Rs. 13 lakhs; there was outstanding at the beginning of the year Rs. 12·48 lakhs, making the total amount on loan Rs. 25·47 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 4·92 lakhs over the figures of the previous year. The amount due for collection, including arrears, was Rs. 15·37 lakhs and the amount collected Rs. 11·52 lakhs. Of the balance Rs. ·712 was remitted, the payment of Rs. 1·52 lakh was suspended and a sum of Rs. 2·63 lakhs was overdue. On the whole loans were more easily recovered than in the previous year. Though the amount to be collected was nearly four lakhs of rupees greater the amount of which payment was suspended was less. There was a slight increase in the sum remitted and an increase of nearly a lakh in the amount overdue when the accounts were closed. The balance outstanding was Rs. 13·94 lakhs. The decrease by over Rs. 20,000 in the amount of which payment was suspended was more noteworthy because in 1915-16 considerable sums had to be collected of which payment had been suspended in the previous year and these were apparently cleared off. There were as in the previous year six districts in which amounts so suspended exceeded Rs. 10,000. In Kyaukpyu, Tharrawaddy, Thatôn, Amherst, Pakôkku, and Yamèthin Districts the amount of agricultural advances classed as overdue exceeded Rs. 10,000, but considerable payments were made in most of these districts shortly after the close of the financial year. Suspension of payment was granted in all cases in which good reasons for it were put forward. The usual grounds of application were an indifferent season, poor prices and difficulty in borrowing. Loans in the majority of instances were productively expended in the purchase of plough-cattle and seed and cases of misappropriation were few. The advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year were Rs. 5,400; the outstandings were Rs. 37,788; the total sum advanced was Rs. 43,188. The amount due for collection was Rs. 16,564 of which Rs. 11,104 were collected, the payment of Rs. 2,266 suspended, and Rs. 2,543 overdue. The total interest collected during the year in the Province was Rs. 1·28 lakh of which Rs. 65,234 were due to the Government of India as interest charges at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Deducting in addition the Rs. 712 remitted the net profit to the Local Government was Rs. 62,395.

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Protection from floods.

89. Embankments constructed for the protection of cultivation are maintained by the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department. The principal works lie along the course of the Irrawaddy river in Lower Burma, but works on a smaller scale have also been constructed along the banks of the Sittang river. For the main works on the Irrawaddy river both capital and revenue accounts are kept, but the works on the Sittang river and the Ma-ubin Embankment in the Ma-ubin District have revenue accounts only. The capital outlay on embankments for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept was Rs. 4,303, raising the total capital outlay to Rs. 40·31 lakhs. Receipts increased from Rs. 14·57 lakhs to Rs. 14·90 lakhs and working expenses from Rs. 2·0 lakhs to Rs. 2·21 lakhs, profits thus rising from Rs. 12·57 lakhs to Rs. 12·68 lakhs and representing a return of 31·47 per cent. on the capital outlay as against a return of 31·23 per cent. in the previous year. The area protected decreased from 499,621 acres to 496,105 acres. The embankments for which only revenue accounts are kept show a decrease in the area protected from 197,815 acres to 197,321 acres; revenue receipts were Rs. 6·64 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 1·75 lakh leaving a profit of Rs. 4·89 lakhs as against a profit of Rs. 5·45 lakhs in the previous year. The work of raising the low portions of the Pagaing Embankment in the Pegu District was completed for Rs. 5,249 and the metalling of the centre with laterite was in progress. The construction of an embankment for a reservoir at Moyingyi was continued and about three-quarters of the work completed. On the Sittang Embankment work was continued raising low portions, metalling, and constructing a retirement, but work was slow on account of ill-health among the labourers. On the extension of the Myanaung section of the Irrawaddy River Embankment from Ingauk to Naukmi a sum of Rs. 3,208 was spent, raising the total expenditure to Rs. 72,014, and work was completed with the exception of the last three miles, the desirability of constructing which is under consideration. The work of surveying and levelling the Yandoon Island was continued and practically completed with a total expenditure of Rs. 14,768. The surveys required in connection with a scheme for the drainage of the Pyuntaza plain in Pegu District were continued, and a protective bund was built round the town of Peinzalok in the same district. Special repairs on the Irrawaddy and Ma-ubin Island Embankments were carried out where required.

Weather and Crops.

Character of the seasons.

90. The year commenced with a promise of abundant rain, and on the whole this promise was maintained for the areas of the wet zone, except for a few short breaks in the monsoon, the effect of which on the crops was immaterial. In the dry zone the rains were disappointing. The early rains were in some cases excessive, and the cultivators found difficulty in preparing a suitable tilth for the sowing of early sessamum and cotton. The middle rains in the upland areas were poor, and the situation in some of the dry zone districts was, towards the end of the season, precarious, but late showers saved the crops of late sessamum, and improved the yield from riverine crops. The late abnormal showers in November which were accompanied by strong northerly winds, caused in the areas in which the rice crop had been reaped considerable damage to the quality of the grain. Reports as to the effect of these storms on standing crops were somewhat conflicting; but there is little doubt that the absence of sunshine and the cold then experienced retarded ripening and increased the percentage of light grain. A bumper crop was confidently expected but forecasts had to be modified when the yield was tested on the threshing floor. The rise of the Irrawaddy river at Katha and Sagaing was the highest on record, and considerable areas under rice were destroyed; but cultivators were in a position later to reap some advantage by growing pulse and riverine crops on the areas enriched by the deposit of silt. Floods from the Sittang river also destroyed the crops on a large area early in the season, but it was found possible to resow the submerged area when the flood water receded.

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Outturns and prices.

91. Although the final forecast of the amount of the rice crop was in several districts revised in the direction of reduction after consideration of reports received from cultivators and others, the total yield of the Province was considerably greater than in the previous year. In three districts, Akyab, Pegu and Mandalay, the yield per acre was in excess of the normal, and, in the principal rice-growing districts of Lower Burma as a whole, the crop was reckoned at 95 per cent. of the normal, a figure which compares well with 81 in the previous year. The exportable surplus of rice was estimated at 2,800,000 tons. The price of unhusked rice in Rangoon in the autumn of 1915 was forced up to Rs. 200 per 100 baskets owing to speculation in white rice. Those who stored unhusked rice had a successful year. Before the new crop had come upon the market prices had fallen below normal, but had to be raised in order to induce sales. In all districts better prices were realised at harvest than in 1914-15. The foreign market was disorganised through restrictions in exports, the closing of markets and the uncertainty of freights.

The total yield of cleaned cotton was about 4,800 tons as compared with over 8,000 tons in the previous year. The decrease was the result of the diminution of the area devoted to the crop. The yield per acre was on the whole better than in the previous year probably because only good cotton lands were placed under this crop. The prices obtained were much better than in the previous year, in Sagaing District being more than doubled, but were still below normal in all but one of the districts in which the crop is of importance. There were considerable variations in the district outturns of ground-nuts; those of Pakôkku and Magwe being better, and those of Sagaing and the Lower Chindwin, where, however, the crop is of secondary importance, being worse, than in the previous year. In Myingyan the outturn though less than that of 1914-15 was still above normal. The net result was that though less land was planted with ground-nuts than the year before the crop was slightly larger. Prices at harvest were better than in 1915, being normal in Magwe, under normal in Pakôkku and over normal in Myingyan. Despite the increase in the area sown the crop of wheat was no larger than in the year previous and prices were slightly above normal. The total yield of sessamum was short of that of the previous year by 10,000 tons; the price despite local variations was on the whole steady, a natural result of the absence of any foreign demand. The yield of white and red millet was less than in 1914-15 and the price improved. The total export of rubber from the Province during the year ended 31st March 1916 was 1,285,984lb. an increase of 298,592 lb. over the figures for 1914-15. In Meiktila and Kyauksè, the chief chilly-growing and exporting districts, there was a big rise in prices due to the failure of imports from Madras owing to the absence of shipping.

Co-operation.

Administration; Co-operative Rural Soeties.

92. Considerable expansion took place but was confined to those districts in which societies were already in existence. Instructions were issued explaining in detail the system of control of the co-operative movement. The machinery of control was divided into two sections, administration and audit. The registrar or joint-registrar is at the head of both sections but in the administrative there are interposed between him and the primary societies the assistant registrars and unions of societies, the latter working partly through paid supervisors. The actual work of audit is done by two sets of auditors, one paid by the societies and one, the junior assistant registrars, employed and paid by Government. Each of the former is expected to audit the accounts of a hundred societies in a year; each of the latter is in charge of two hundred societies whose accounts he is expected to audit once in two years. The effect of the reorganization is to increase the share in control of unions and central banks. Supervisors are engaged by unions and placed in charge of about fifty societies each, their duties being to teach the principles of co-operation and account-keeping and to see audit orders carried out. The staff was increased by the appointment of two assistant and five junior assistant registrars, and a scheme for training each year

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a reserve of junior assistant registrars was sanctioned. The close inter-connection between the Agricultural and Co-operative Departments was emphasised by the transfer to Maymyo, which has since 1905 been the headquarters of the superior staff of the co-operative movement, of the headquarters of the Director of Agriculture. A revised set of rules under the Act was issued in February 1916 and the model bye-laws of practically all classes of societies were revised and have been adopted in their revised form by the societies concerned. Practically all the recommendations of the Committee on Co-operation were adopted without difficulty. Agricultural credit societies numbered 1,685 at the close of the year as compared with 1,252 a year earlier and their membership increased in the same period from 30,130 to 36,494. Eight hundred of the societies are of the Luzzati type in which shares are subscribed in instalments. Credit during the year was somewhat easier than in 1914-15. Expansion occurred for the most part in the Lower Chindwin, Pakôkku, Sagaing, Kyauksè, Meiktila, Pegu, Prome and Tharrawaddy Districts. With a very few exceptions agricultural credit societies worked well. It is more and more clear that the one thing necessary is understanding; most of the faults found are due to ignorance and inefficiency. The sanctions provided by the power of the union to bring pressure and of the Registrar to cancel are effective and prevent serious lapses. The number of societies cancelled during the year was 25 and the progress of liquidations was satisfactory. The total working capital of these societies increased from Rs. 41·52 to Rs. 53·36 lakhs, the share capital from Rs. 7·00 lakhs to Rs. 8·66 lakhs, and the reserve fund from Rs. 4·40 lakhs to Rs. 6·35 lakhs. Loans and deposits from individuals increased from Rs. ·89 lakh to Rs. 1·10 lakh and the profit on the year's working was Rs. 2·56 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·13 lakhs in 1914-15. The relation of reserve funds to total loans and deposits held was Rs. 8·91 lakhs to Rs. 38·35 lakhs.

There are four colonies which have been formed for bringing land under cultivation under the auspices of the Co-operative Department. The oldest of these is in the area irrigated by the Môn Canals in the Minbu District which in the year of report completed its fourth year of existence. Though there is no doubt of the ultimate success of the colony the co-operative credit societies through which cultivators were financed were, principally from lack of continuous control, badly managed and there was a failure to repay both Government advances and loans taken from Central Banks. At Kadônbaw in Hanthawaddy District leases of a disforested reserve were issued to 13 Co-operative Credit Societies and loans granted which before harvest reached a total of upwards of Rs. 500 per member. The amount realised by the sale of the surplus of the year's crop was Rs. 90,415 or about Rs. 155 per member. Further Government loans were issued and at the end of June 1916 the average indebtedness of each member on this account was about Rs. 716 to be repaid in eight equal annual instalments. Near Ela in Yamèthin District four villages were formed of persons who had been dispossessed of lands and houses by the formation of an elephant grazing reserve. Government advances were issued and the prospects of some of the societies are encouraging but others may require to be reorganised. The village of Hopin in the Myitkyina District is surrounded by a very large area of fertile and uncultivated land. Societies were originally formed here among settlers who were already in the hands of money-lenders. Difficulties were experienced in setting the members of these on their feet and the department has undertaken measures for the systematic colonisation of the area, financing the colonists, and working with the Agricultural Department for the establishment of other staple crops in addition to rice.

Unions and Central Banks.

93. The number of unions has increased from 112 in the previous year to 189 and the number of affiliated societies from 1,121 to 1,602. The number of individual members of affiliated societies is now 34,123 and their aggregate working capital Rs. 46 lakhs. The unions employed 26 inspectors for the supervision of the work of societies. The union in Burma is becoming more and more the mainspring of the movement. Unions responded well to the very heavy work entailed by the introduction of a new system of finance, the remodelling

of union and affiliated society bye-laws, and in five districts by the formation of affiliated cattle insurance societies. The new financing system laid down that Credit Banks regard punctual repayment as one of the main criteria of credit worthiness. It also gave unions the power of reducing estimated repayments of affiliated societies for good cause shewn, and of bringing pressure to bear on societies inclined to unpunctuality. The success of their efforts in the latter direction was proved by the unusually high proportion of repayments during the year. There was a considerable expansion in the business of the Upper Burma Central Co-operative Bank, Limited. The paid up share capital increased from Rs. 2·04 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 2·28 lakhs, loans to banks and societies from Rs. 11·25 lakhs to Rs. 21·47 lakhs and repayments of loans and deposits from Rs 8·06 lakhs to Rs. 12·06 lakhs. The total of loans due from banks and societies was Rs. 27·89 lakhs as against Rs. 22·13 lakhs. Loans and deposits from individuals with the bank expanded from Rs. 28·34 lakhs to Rs. 51·07 lakhs. Owing to the depreciation of its holding of Government paper and other securities the bank wrote down their value by Rs. 53,500 and for this reason the year's working resulted in a loss of Rs. 9,020. The Co-operative Credit Societies have agreed to pay for a period of one year from 1st April 1916 a commission of one per cent. on all loans from the bank, the proceeds to be credited to the bank's reserve fund. The bank is the centre of the fluid resources of the whole movement and throughout the year it kept at least the amount considered to be necessary by the Committee on Co-operation. The management was satisfactory and, owing probably to the improvement effected by the new financing system, repayments by affiliated societies were better than in any year since its formation. The three District Central Banks, at Pakôkku, Sagu-Salin (Minbu District) and Pegu have intimate connections with the Provincial Bank and serve to collect a certain amount of local money which the Provincial Bank would not obtain. Their aggregate working capital increased from Rs. 4·88 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 7·52 lakhs, the paid up share capital from Rs. ·71 lakh to Rs. 1·07 lakh, but loans and deposits from individuals received during the year fell away from Rs. 2·11 lakhs to Rs. 1·47 lakh. Loans made during the year were Rs. 5·08 lakhs as against Rs. 2·92 lakhs, repayments of loans received Rs. 2·19 lakhs as against Rs. 1·45 lakh while the amount of loans due increased from Rs. 4·99 lakhs to Rs. 7·60 lakhs. The Pegu Bank was dissolved in November 1915 and re-constituted.

Other Societies.

94. The number of non-agricultural credit societies increased from 43 to 46. The increase took place in Rangoon where credit societies for employees were formed in the larger Government offices. Four societies were wound up, one with a view to reconstruction and the rest as they were stagnant. The Toungoo and Nyaunglebin Urban Societies were the most successful of the Town Banks. The Nyaunglebin Society has devised a scheme for the collection of small savings in the town which produces an average of Rs. 700 per month. The unwieldy Bawgabala Society at Mandalay was wound up and a number of societies restricted in each case to a particular trade are being formed in its place. The Amarapura Weavers' Society was unable to dispose of fabrics and was wound up.

The principal statistics with reference to cattle insurance societies are as follows. There are 305 such societies situated in the districts of Shwebo, Sagaing, Mandalay, Kyauksè and Meiktila, with an aggregate membership of 5,045. The amount of risk insured against on 30th June 1916 was Rs. 2·87 lakhs, premia collected during the year Rs. 9,737, number of animals insured on 30th June 7,929 and the number lost during the year 75. The amount of claims paid was Rs. 685, cost of management Rs. 219, and funds in hand at the close of the year Rs. 10,671. Of the total risk Rs. 1·13 lakh was re-insured with the central cattle re-insurance society. The movement is only beginning, the number of societies in the previous year being only 63. The central cattle re-insurance society is composed of the 305 ordinary insurance societies as members and of honorary individual members. The societies may re-insure with it half of the risks assumed by them. Its premium income during the year was Rs. 4,022, it paid Rs. 247 in claims and management expenses amounted to

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Rs. 148. At the close of the year a sum of Rs 3,626 was in hand and it was not necessary to draw on the Government guarantee loan. The present rate of premium, 5 per cent., was imposed as an experiment and experience may prove that it is too high The Pakôkku Wholesale Society was engaged in collecting capital. Credit and sale societies sold rice, dhall and wheat and one society supplied a Municipality with road-metal Negotiations with the Burma Chamber of Commerce for the reduction of the capacity of the standard basket from nine to eight gallons and for the alteration of the present system of purchase of unhusked rice by measurement with an allowance for weight to a system of purchase by weight only, led to no result.

Horticulture.

Horticultural Societies.

95. There are two Agri-Horticultural Societies in the Province; the Agri-Horticultural Society of Burma with headquarters and gardens in Rangoon, and the Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society with headquarters in Moulmein. The membership of the former society fell from 268 to 223, a decrease of 45. The revenue account during 1915 showed a profit of Rs. 380 as compared with a loss of Rs. 909 in the previous year. Receipts rose from Rs. 35,827 to Rs. 39,552 and expenditure from Rs. 36,736 to Rs. 39,172. In spite of the war the sale of plants, flowers and seeds increased and the stocks of trees and plants were well maintained. On account of the war no show was held during the year.

The Tenasserim Agri-Horticultural Society, as in the previous year, published no report, and held no annual show.

Forests.

Forest reserves, unclassed forests, settlement, demarcation, survey and working-plans

96. At the beginning of the year the aggregate area of forest reserves in Burma was 18,072,843 acres to which were added by reservation, recomputation of areas and revision of boundaries 219,156 acres and from which fell to be deducted by disforestation, recomputation of areas and revision of boundaries 9,572 acres, leaving at the close of the year an aggregate area of 18,282,427 acres or 28,566 square miles of which 1,232 square miles were subject to the practice of shifting cultivation. At the beginning of the year the estimated area of unclassed forest was 73,041,132 acres, the gains and losses were 69,267 and 307,003 acres respectively, and the area at the close of the year 72,803,396 acres or 113,755 square miles of which the estimated area without tree growth was 11,906 square miles. Owing to the lack of available civil and forest officers the area settled as reserved forest fell from 891 to 336 square miles. Owing to the abandonment of the reservation of certain tracts the aggregate area awaiting constitution as reserved forest by settlement fell from 1,035 square miles at the end of 1914-15 to 772 square miles. The length of forest reserve boundaries demarcated for the first time was 259 miles as against 723 miles in the previous year and the length repaired 2,488 miles as against 2,369. The average cost of first demarcation rose from Rs. 12·9 to Rs. 15·5 per mile, the rates varying from Rs. 31·7 in the Pegu Circle to Rs. 6·9 in the Southern Circle. The average cost of repairs fell from Rs 7·8 to Rs. 6·7 per mile, being again highest in the Pegu and lowest in the Southern Circles. On clearing or repairing interior boundaries a sum of Rs. 1,831 was spent. No 11 Party of the Survey of India executed on the scale of one inch to the mile a detailed survey of the whole of one, and parts of two, reserves in the Tavoy and Mergui Districts, and a similar survey on a scale of two inches to the mile of five reserves in the Mandalay Division and part of one reserve in the Meiktila Division. The total area of forest reserve surveyed by this Party was 1134 square miles. No. 10 Party surveyed on the scale of two inches to the mile three reserves with a total area of 175 square miles in the Myitkyina Division and two reserves, area 46·7 square miles, in the Mansi Division. A working-plan for three reserves with a total area of 101 square miles in the Ruby Mines District was sanctioned by the Local Government,

Other working-plans were in various stages of preparation. There were 7,377 square miles of forest reserve and 24,966 square miles of unclassed forest worked under rough schemes and 11,622 square miles of reserve and 88,040 square miles of unclassed forests for which no schemes of management had been prepared.

Protection of forests.

97. The number of forest offences reported which in 1914-15 was 5,026 increased to 5,667 The increase was to some extent possibly due to the more careful supervision of the forests, but the principal cause was the depletion of accessible unclassed forests which induced villagers to supply their wants by theft from forest reserves. There was a marked increase in the number of cases of illicit grazing, due to the efforts made to put a stop to this practice in the Northern Circle and in the Mandalay Division. Forest Officers compounded 4,212 cases involving 5,835 persons and prosecutions were instituted in 1,020 cases involving 2,097 persons. The number of cases in which a conviction was secured was 887, or 87 per cent, involving 1,728 persons, or 82·4 per cent. Fines aggregating Rs. 3683 were paid by lessees and purchase contractors for breaches of agreements. In the Insein Division three purchase contracts were cancelled for the same reason. Protection against fire was attempted over an area of 1,715,336 acres and successful over 1 582,507 acres or 92·3 per cent. of the area attempted. A further area of 451,074 acres was excluded from protection, some permanently on the ground that the forest would rarely burn even if not protected, and some temporarily on account of the flowering of bamboos. The average cost of protection was Rs. 4.5 per square mile attempted and Rs. 46 per square mile saved. Of the area of reserved forest 78·05 per cent. is closed to all animals throughout the year, 15·38 per cent is open to all animals for part of the year and 4·73 per cent. open to all animals throughout the year In unclassed forests there is no control over grazing The number of cattle impounded was 4,303 as against an average of 3,648 for the three preceding years Damage to forests from the elephants of lessees was reported from the Upper Chindwin and Mansi Divisions and from the ravages of wild animals in numerous districts. In Arakan a cyclone did much damage in North Akyab and the Hill Tracts. The Mansi Division suffered from hail-storms which practically defoliated the teak in the Mode Reserve. The usual reports were made of damage by insects, epiphytes, parasites and weeds.

Improvement of forests.

98. The expenditure on new roads and paths decreased by Rs. 54,507, from Rs. 79,570 to Rs. 25,063 and expenditure on repairs by Rs. 9 344, from Rs 65,242 to Rs. 55,898. In addition to these amounts certain small grants were received from District Funds and forest lessees and expended by the Forest Department. The expenditure on new buildings was Rs 46,793 as compared with Rs. 89,869 in the previous year, a decrease of Rs. 43,076, and on repairs Rs. 52,190 as compared with Rs. 68,615, a decrease of Rs 16,425. The expenditure on new miscellaneous works which in 1914-15 was Rs. 10,915 fell to Rs. 6,477, and on repairs was Rs. 12,545 as against Rs. 10 186. Lessees of forests reported that they had incurred an aggregate expenditure of Rs. 1,01,18 on communications and buildings Extensive operations were carried out in the Katha Division in order to induce and establish the natural reproduction of teak Twenty-one acres were added to the area of regular teak plantations at a cost of Rs. 136 and 30 acres excluded as having failed In the Arakan Division steps are being taken to plant teak, which does not occur naturally, on an extensive scale. It has been proved that teak will grow well and good results are anticipated as experience is gained. An area of 585 acres was added to the area of teak plantations on shifting hill cultivation (*taungya*) and 8 acres gained by recomputation after survey. One hundred acres were lost by recomputation and 98 written off as failures. The cost of fresh plantations was Rs. 8,44: and of maintenance Rs. 17,947.

Exploitation of timber.

99. Nearly all the reserved forests in the Province, so far as they are exploited, are worked under the "Selection" system. Teak trees are selected

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and girdled and trees of other species selected and marked by officers of the Forest Department and only trees so girdled or marked may be felled and removed by purchasers. In unclassed forests also teak trees are selected and girdled by the Forest Department. Some descriptions of minor forest produce may be collected free or under a free permit. In such cases the royalty may be levied as an export duty, as in the case of cutch and lac; or on the arrival of the produce at a revenue station, as in the case of bamboos cut from unclassed forests in Upper Burma. In other cases a prepaid license is issued. The royalty may be proportionate to the amount of produce which the licensee may collect, as in the case of bamboos and canes; or the licensee may be permitted, for a fixed sum, to collect as much as he can in a given time, as in the case of wood-oil. In other cases license-books, each license being for a fixed amount of produce, are sold at a discount to "Revenue Collectors" who are permitted to retail the licenses at their face value. In other cases the right to collect a given produce, or to collect royalty at fixed rates on a given produce, over a fixed area, is sold to a monopolist.

The number of teak trees girdled fell from 205,371 in the previous year to 195,902 owing to the suspension of operations in several divisions where extraction had fallen into arrears. Departmental extraction of teak on a large scale is practically confined to the forests on the Pegu Yoma range of hills. The total quantity of teak extracted by the Department was 65,347 tons as compared with 51,880 tons in the previous year. In the Rangoon Depôt the quantity of teak sold increased from 7,283 tons in the previous year to 15,642 tons, the majority of the logs being of inferior quality. The average price realised per ton was Rs. 50-6-3 as against Rs. 71-2-1 in the previous year and Rs. 101-9-8 in 1913-14. The fall was partly due to the inferior quality of the timber offered, but in the main to lack of demand caused by the conditions resulting from the war. The quantity of teak extracted by purchasers was 249,892 tons as compared with an outturn of 243,107 tons from this source in the previous year. The quantity of reserved timber extracted by purchasers was 74,255 tons as against 70,139 tons in 1914-15, of unreserved timbers, 161,235 tons as against 172,480 tons and of fuel 535,393 tons as against 409,950 tons. The quantity of timber extracted under free grants again decreased from 17,807 tons to 14,915 tons. The estimated value of minor forest produce extracted by purchasers increased from Rs. 4·23 lakhs in 1914-15 to Rs. 5·87 lakhs and the revenue actually realised thereon from Rs. 4·21 lakhs to Rs. 6·11 lakhs. The rise was due solely to the increased demand for cutch, the export duty collected on which rose from Rs. 94,119 to Rs. 2,29,842.

The expenditure by forest lessees on mechanical appliances for the extraction of timber increased from Rs. 7,133 in the previous year to Rs. 1,14,570. Messrs. Steel Bros. & Co., Ltd., purchased a caterpillar tractor for use in their forests in Katha and other firms spent considerable sums on the construction of light railways and skidders.

Finance.

100. The financial results are noticed in Chapter V in the section entitled "Revenue and Finance other than Imperial".

Mines and Quarries.

The Indian Mines Act.

101. No new mines were reported during the year but several workings were started in the Tavoy District which should, in the opinion of the District Magistrate, have been registered and for the registration of which steps have been taken. On the other hand, in the same district, consequent on the increase in the demand for wolfram, the existing mines were more assiduously worked, notably in the last quarter of the year. The Burma Ruby Mines Company also increased its activities slightly in response to an improvement in the demand for rubies in the Indian market. Numerous inspections of mines by the Government Geologist on Mines Duty, the Deputy Commissioner and the Mines Assistant, Tavoy, led to a considerable improvement in all branches of mining administration in that district. These activities more than counterbalanced the absence of inspections by medical officers. In other places inspections by district officers were made as usual. The

Lower Burma Chamber of Mines was re-constituted as the Tavoy Chamber of Mines. A strong committee was formed which, as including all the principal mine owners, is expected to exercise considerable and useful authority. Fever was the only disease generally prevalent. In the Kyauksè District the remedial measures adopted were jungle-clearing in the vicinity of the mines and the employment of an increased medical staff. No noteworthy change in the general rate of wages paid took place during the year save in the Tavoy District where the payment of high wages was one of the methods adopted to stimulate the output of wolfram. Imported Chinese received Re. 1-12-0 per day; other labourers were paid on the "tribute" system under which the mine owner purchases from the labourer at a fixed price all the ore produced by the latter. Nine fatal accidents occurred during the year, seven of which were in the Tavoy District. Nearly all the deaths were caused by falls of earth; in no case was the responsibility laid on the neglect or failure to take due precautions of the mine owner. There were no prosecutions under the Act during the year.

New concessions.

102. During the year 1915 the number of applications for prospecting licenses on which orders were passed was 293. Of these 147 were granted, 100 rejected and 46 withdrawn. In 1914 the number dealt with was 344 of which 179 were granted, 125 rejected and 40 withdrawn. Of 17 applications for mining leases 3 were granted, 10 refused and 4 withdrawn; in 1914 the number of cases dealt with was 12. At the end of the year 157 applications for prospecting licenses and 35 applications for mining leases were pending; on the corresponding date of 1914 the figures were 95 and 37. As in previous years the majority of applications were concerned with the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the two southern districts of the Tenasserim Division. The search for petroleum in the Magwe Division accounts for the second place in the number of applications. Of the three mining leases issued two were for petroleum in the Minbu District and one for lead and silver in the Southern Shan States.

Petroleum.

103. The output of petroleum which in 1914 amounted to 254½ million gallons valued at Rs. 141·46 lakhs rose in 1915 to 282¼ million gallons valued at Rs. 185 97 lakhs. There are in the Province seven petroleum producing districts Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Thayetmyo, Magwe, Myingyan, Pakôkku and Minbu. The aggregate production of the first three was only about 61,000 gallons. Of the others the most important is Magwe with an output of over 198¾ million gallons valued at Rs. 1,14·79 lakhs, a notable recovery from the yield of the previous year of 175 million gallons. The Yenangyaung field continued to flourish and increase its yield in the teeth of all prophecies of approaching exhaustion. In Myingyan the output which was 73½ million gallons in 1914 was 77 million gallons in 1915, an example of the steady increase in the production of the Singu field. In Pakôkku the yield fell from 4½ millions to just over 4 million gallons; the Yenangyat field is slowly approaching the stage of exhaustion. In Minbu the yield which fell to 1½ million gallons in 1914 recovered to over 2¼ millions, though the prospects of the industry in that district are not yet absolutely assured. Progress in the Thayetmyo District is slow and the yield of 25,920 gallons show that oil winning there is still in the experimental stage.

Gold.

104. The production of gold in the Province is small. It amounted during the year to 3,182·58 ounces valued at Rs. 1·85 lakh of which 3,106·83 ounces valued at Rs. 1·79 lakh were won in the Myitkyina District. The Burma Gold Dredging Company, Limited, operating in the bed of the Irrawaddy River in this district produced 2,819·25 ounces as against 2,631 ounces in the previous year. Though gold-washing is carried on in a few other districts, the amount of gold won is insignificant, the largest amount being 50·25 ounces declared by the Upper Chindwin District.

Rubies.

105. The Burma Ruby Mines Company, Limited, continued their operations during the year in the country round Mogôk. No new mine was opened but night work at one of the existing mines which had stopped in 1914 was revived

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in July 1915. The total estimated value of the outturn during the year 1915 was Rs. 5·45 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6·37 lakhs in 1914. The outturn in carats fell from 304,042 to 251,449 The royalties collected from native miners fell from Rs. 1·82 lakh in 1914 to Rs. ·56 lakh, but prospects are better now than in the days immediately succeeding the outbreak of the war. There were practically no sales in Europe but the demand in India and in Mogôk was fair.

Other minerals.

106. At the present time the most important of the other minerals produced in the Province is wolfram. The mines in the principal source of supply, the Tavoy District, are under the Indian Mines Act, 1901. Prior to the outbreak of the present war the sole market for wolfram was Germany and its closure had disastrous results on the industry. In the latter part of 1914 work on many mines had entirely ceased and the production of all had been severely curtailed. In 1915 the demand for wolfram revived owing to its importance in the manufacture of munitions and energetic measures were taken to enhance the supply in every way possible. Labour was imported, roads were made to the mines as rapidly as could be, and the district staff was largely increased. The full effect of these measures was not experienced in 1915 but the output of the mines under the Act, which in 1914 was 1,579 tons valued at Rs. 16·57 lakhs, increased to 2,037 tons valued at Rs. 26·93 lakhs. From mines not under the Mines Act the total output was 143 tons valued at Rs. 6 83 lakhs. The provincial total of wolfram for the year was therefore 2,3·0 tons of a value of Rs. 33·76 lakhs compared with 2,190 tons of a value of Rs. 24·99 lakhs in 1914. Of the mines not under the Mines Act those in the Thatôn District produced 49 tons, in Tavoy 61 tons, in Mergui 232 tons, while from the Southern Shan States 331 tons of tinstone and wolfram ore were produced.

Of other metals the output of tin fell from 136 tons to 131 tons. In Tavoy production fell from 38 to 2 tons and Mergui with 128 tons is responsible for practically the whole production of the Province. From Mergui also came 86 tons of tin ore, the same amount as in the previous year. The most striking development of the year is due to the operations of the Burma Mines Company, Limited, at Namtu in the Northern Shan States. In 1914 the production of their mines was 24,901 tons of lead slag valued at Rs. 6·01 lakhs and 8 769 tons of silver lead ore valued at Rs. 2·36 lakhs. In 1915 the returns were 32,587 tons lead slag from which were produced 11,702 tons lead valued at Rs 12 52 lakhs and 185,570 ounces of silver valued at Rs. 3·04 lakhs; 4,0 7 tons of silver lead ore from which were produced 1,529 t ns lead valued at Rs. 1 64 lakh and 78,225 ounces of silver valued at Rs. 1·28 lakh; 5,620 tons gossan flux which produced 288 tons lead valued at Rs. 31 lakh and 21,080 ounces of silver valued at Rs. ·35 lakh. Other products of the same mine were 875 tons of copper ore valued at Rs. ·35 lakh and 87 tons of zinc ore valued at Rs. 2,610. In the Myitkyina District the output of jade was 3,69. cwt. as compared with 3,,64 cwt. in the previous year and the value dropped from Rs. 2·05 lakhs to Rs. 1.90 lakh.

Quarry stones and clay.

107. The value of granite extracted rose from Rs. 1·27 lakh in 1914 to Rs. 1·60 lakh in 1915. Considerably more than half the total quantity for the Province was raised from the quarries in the Thatôn District which have in recent years become the principal source of supply of road metal. For the requirements of the Public Works Department large quantities of laterite, limestone and gravel were as in previous years extracted from numerous areas scattered throughout the Province.

Revenue from mines and quarries.

108. The receipts from fees, rents and royalties on petroleum, rubies, jade and amber increased by nearly 29 per cent., from Rs. 30·18 lakhs to Rs. 38 91 lakhs. Receipts from pretroleum in Magwe increased by Rs. 6·73 lakhs to Rs. 25·61 lakhs and in Myingyan by Rs. 1·50 lakh to Rs. 11·07 lakhs. The increase in Magwe was due in part to increased production but in considerable measure to the fact that Rs. 1·70 lakh collected in 1914-15 was not brought to account until the year of report. Continued progress by the Burma Oil Company and the British Burma Petroleum Company in the Singu oil-field,

which has been transferred to the Magwe District since the close of the year, accounted for the increase in Myingyan. There was a further decrease of Rs. 12,262 in Pakôkku to Rs. 59,525. In Myitkyina, the revenue derived from licenses to collect royalty on jadestone increased by 77 per cent from Rs. 27,190 to Rs 48,200 on account of an increase in the license fees, while in the Ruby Mines District there was a rise of 114 per cent. from Rs 37,700 to Rs. 80,680 in royalties on precious stones, indicating a partial recovery of the trade in rubies. "Other minerals" produced Rs. 2·43 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 99,634 or over 69 per cent., the Tenasserim Division being responsible for Rs. 98,126, *i.e.* practically the whole of the increase The Tavoy receipts more than doubled from Rs. 79,841 to Rs. 1,59,836 owing to the urgent demand for wolfram for munition purposes which commenced about June 1915. Production rose from 1,644 to 2,346 tons. As the rate of royalty was raised in January from Rs. 30 to Rs. 45 a ton the amount collected increased by Rs. 66,652 or 12 per cent. With an increase in the number of prospecting licenses issued, acreage fees in this district correspondingly increased by Rs. 12,451 or nearly 47 per cent. In Mergui and Thatôn the revival of the wolfram industry similarly led to increases of Rs. 10,013 (44½ per cent) and Rs. 7,991 (151 per cent.) respectively, the increase in Thatôn being mainly due to the great demand for prospecting licenses in the Paung Township. Owing to the grant of large areas under prospecting licenses in Katha and Kyaukè receipts from these districts increased by Rs. 2,206 and Rs. 2,111, respectively. In Myaungmya a revival of the market for lime attracted back a number of manufacturers who had turned their attention to agriculture in the previous year.

Manufactures.

109. The bulk of the indigenous population is agricultural, and manufacturing industries draw their supplies of labour mainly from Indian immigrants. The numbers of persons supported by the various industries of the Province are given in the Census Report of 1911. The only new industry started was a soap factory in a suburb of Rangoon which ceased working before the end of the year and failed to submit any return to the Inspector of Factories. There was a considerable increase in the number of mills which undertook the operation of boiling unhusked rice, an industry which came into prominence as the result of the difficulties caused by lack of shipping in the export of rice to Europe. Numerous advantages are claimed for the process and its future development promises to be of considerable interest. The principal industries continued to be rice-milling, saw-milling, petroleum refining and transport. Of these the rice-milling industry accounted for more than half of the factories registered and for nearly half of the total number of operatives employed; while the four industries between them claimed over two-thirds of the total number of operatives. Indigenous industries such as the manufacture of cigars, pots, mats, umbrellas, *ngapi*, shoes and carts present no unusual features and do not fall within the purview of the Factories Act. Principal industries.

110. The number of registered factories at the end of 1915 was 480 of which 19 were not working, an increase of 30 over the figures of 1914. The total number of persons employed was 66,32 of whom 3,601 were women and 617 children; in 1914 the figures were 6 ,601, of whom 4,049 were women and 850 children. The general rate of wages paid to operatives was much the same as in the previous year except in the case of turners who received advances of Rs. 10 per month from some firms. The advance is probably only temporary and due to the demand for the services of such operatives for the manufacture of munitions Girls employed in spreading boiled rice were paid four annas a day or in some cases a little more The number of women and children employed in factories fluctuates from year to year but there are no signs of any permanent increase. In Rangoon children are employed to collect sawdust in saw-mills, as tally boys in rice-mills, and in various capacities in oil refineries In Hanthawaddy they work in the match and oil factories and in Upper Burma they pick Factories.

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over the cotton in the compounds of the cotton ginning mills; they are only rarely employed on the gins themselves. Sanitary conditions in factories were on the whole satisfactory during the dry season, but in the rains compounds were often wet and partially flooded, a state of affairs exceedingly difficult to prevent or find a remedy for. A steady improvement was noticeable in the way factories were kept. Saw-mills and rice-mills are dirty businesses at best and can never be anything else, but a good deal in the way of lime washing and other things was done to keep up a certain standard of cleanliness. The prevention of the impregnation of the atmosphere of rice-mills with dust is a difficult problem of which a solution not ruinously expensive has yet to be found. Complaints were made of bad work by municipal sweepers in the conservancy of factory latrines. The water supply of factories was as a rule adequate in quantity but water for drinking had often to be brought from some distance and was of indifferent quality. In certain parts of the Prome and Tharrawaddy Districts where factories are numerous the experiment of sinking artesian wells has failed and the problem of the provision of a satisfactory water-supply is of much difficulty. The general health of the operatives was good. Despite the enormous number of rats harboured in every rice mill the number of operatives who died of plague was not large. No complaints were received of workmen being incapacitated on account of hookworm disease. Further progress was made during the year with the fencing of machinery; means of escape in case of fire were on the whole adequate. The number of persons who lost their lives from accidents in factories was 22 as compared with 9 in 1914. The number of serious accidents increased from 75 to 121 and the number of minor accidents from 280 to 316. The number of prosecutions and of convictions for offences under the Factories Act was 14 as compared with 12 in 1914. Of 461 factories actually working 375 were visited by the Inspector of Factories during the year. The absence of the usual shipping facilities rendered it impossible to visit districts whose sole means of communication with Rangoon is by sea.

Trade.

Maritime trade; total value and revenue.

111. The total value of the sea borne trade of Burma was Rs. 57,39·38 lakhs, a decline of Rs. 1,54·31 lakhs or 2·6 per cent. on a comparison with the previous year. Excluding the provincial trade there was a decline of 2·1 per cent.; but the prevailing influences were most strongly felt in the foreign trade which declined by 4·8 per cent. If however the months April to July, which in 1914-15 were not war months, be omitted, in the remaining months the total value of the private trade of Rangoon with all ports (foreign and coasting) was Rs. 30,25 lakhs in 1915-16 as against Rs. 28,50 lakhs in the previous year. This improvement was a remarkable example of the recovery of confidence in the Province, because the low price of unhusked rice must have reacted unfavourably on the general purchasing power; while the effects of the war bore with ever increasing weight on the export trade. Of these effects the most serious was the scarcity of shipping with its result, an enormous increase in rates of freight. Markets in enemy countries remained closed, while trade with neutrals and in some cases even with allied countries and British possessions was subject to increasingly severe restrictions. Imports from Japan rose to Rs. 111 lakhs in value, nearly twice the total of the previous year, more by a few lakhs than the figure for either of the two years before the war, and appreciably more than in any other previous year. The percentage of the total year's trade secured by Japan was 10·4 while the largest share previously recorded was 7·9 per cent. in 1912-13. Exports to Japan on the other hand, which in 1914-15 had dropped heavily to Rs. 30 lakhs from an average in the three preceding years of Rs. 222 lakhs, again declined to Rs. 27·5 lakhs. Imports from the United States, principally motor cars and iron and steel goods, increased very largely.

In the external trade of the Province (merchandise and Government stores) the excess in the value of exports over imports was Rs. 13·5 crores as against Rs. 15 crores in the previous year. Against this must be set off the

phenomenally low imports of treasure, the net figure (after deducting re-exports) being Rs. 36 lakhs as against one crore of rupees in 1914-15. Imports of silver overland from Western China were of abnormal dimensions, over Rs. 69 lakhs. Apparently, however, practically the whole of this was despatched by parcel post to the silver market in Bombay and hence it was not recorded in the trade of the Province by the Customs Department. The value of the gold imported into the Province which was Rs. 78·12 lakhs in 1913-14 fell to Rs. 15·11 lakhs in 1914-15 and to Rs. 2·07 lakhs in the year of report. Practically the only imports were bullion and coin other than sovereigns from Hongkong. No gold came from India and there were no imports or exports of sovereigns on Government account. Imports of rupees from India rose considerably but were still far below the figures normal before the war.

The total gross customs revenue for the year was Rs. 1,33·17 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,38·99 lakhs in 1914-15. The corresponding figures for net revenue are Rs. 1,30·79 lakhs and Rs. 1,36·31 lakhs. In 1913-14 the last complete year before the war the gross revenue was Rs. 2,03·21 lakhs and the net revenue Rs. 2,00·66 lakhs. In the year of report the gross import duty (excluding salt duty) rose by Rs. 3·76 lakhs or 6 per cent. Liquors contributed Rs. 21·17 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·92 lakh. Cotton goods advanced by Rs. 1·13 lakh to Rs. 9·45 lakhs, and tobacco by Rs. ·91 lakh to Rs. 7·89 lakhs. The duty derived from sugar rose by Rs. 1·14 lakh to Rs. 3·16 lakhs and from silk goods by Rs. ·93 lakh to Rs. 2·72 lakhs. Salt duty declined by Rs. 4·17 lakhs or 21·8 per cent. A further decline was recorded under export duty, the total collection being Rs. 51·59 lakhs as compared with Rs. 57·01 lakhs, a decline of Rs. 5·42 lakhs or 9·5 per cent. The gross revenue collections at Rangoon aggregated Rs. 1,21·74 lakhs as against Rs. 1,23·8 lakhs, a fall of Rs. 2·06 lakhs or 1·7 per cent.; an additional sum of Rs. 6·97 lakhs was realised at Rangoon on account of rice shipped at Bassein and Moulmein. The net revenue collected at Rangoon dropped by Rs. 1·81 lakh to Rs. 1,19·60 lakhs. The gross revenue collections at the subordinate ports amounted to Rs. 11·43 lakhs as against Rs. 15·19 lakhs, a fall of Rs. 3·76 lakhs or 24·8 per cent. Of this sum Rs. 10·21 lakhs were collected as export duty on rice. The gross duty collections at the various outports were as follows:—Bassein Rs. 7·86 lakhs, Akyab Rs. 1·76 lakh, Moulmein Rs. 1·16 lakh, Tavoy Rs. ·48 lakh, Mergui Rs. ·13 lakh, and Victoria Point Rs. ·04 lakh.

Rangoon trade; total figures.

112. The total value of all articles, excluding treasure, imported from foreign countries into Rangoon, was Rs. 10,64·07 lakhs as against Rs. 10,34·19 lakhs in the previous year, and from India into Rangoon Rs. 7,71·33 lakhs as against Rs. 6,69·38 lakhs. Exports from Rangoon to foreign countries, again excluding treasure, were valued at Rs. 12,05·56 lakhs as against Rs. 12,87·51 lakhs, and to India at Rs. 13,96·14 lakhs as compared with Rs. 14,46·11 lakhs. Of the foreign trade Rangoon took 88·43 per cent. as compared with 86·80 per cent. in 1914-15 and 82·72 per cent. in 1913-14. The share of Rangoon in the Indian and Provincial trades was much the same as in the previous year, 83·74 and 43·64 per cent. compared with 83·20 and 44·32 per cent. respectively in 1914-15.

Rangoon trade; foreign imports.

113. Imports under *textiles—cotton* increased in value from Rs. 3,56·29 lakhs to Rs. 4,16·45 lakhs. This trade shewed an appreciable recovery, and though the total figures were far short of those for the two years of over-trading before the war, they were back to the level of the year 1910-11. The excessive stocks in hand when war broke out were considerably reduced during the year 1914-15, which to some extent explains the subsequent improvement. The recovery took place principally during the three months January—March 1916, the importation during the corresponding period of 1915 having been abnormally small. The total figure represents 22 per cent. of the aggregate value of private merchandise imported into the Province. Trade was good on the whole, and stocks at the close of the year were generally light, except perhaps in white piece-goods. An outstanding feature of the year was the difficulty experienced by merchants in

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obtaining supplies of coloured goods, on account of the shortage and greatly enhanced price of dye-stuffs. Imports of *textiles—silk* increased in value from Rs. 36·03 lakhs in 1914-15 to Rs. 52·47 lakhs in the year of report, but even this latter figure compares badly with Rs. 86·22 lakhs in 1913-14 and Rs. 1,01·68 lakhs in 1912-13. The silk trade is a very fair index of the prosperity of the Burmese population, and the low price of unhusked rice during the year is reflected in these figures. The trade in wool has been completely dislocated by the war with its phenomenal demand for woollen clothing and equipment for troops in Europe. The total value of imports under this head fell from Rs. 30·18 lakhs to Rs. 8·45 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 21·73 lakhs or 72 per cent. Prices ruled high. The total value under the head *Metals and ores* increased from Rs. 1,19·86 lakhs to Rs. 1,35·85 lakhs. The growing difficulty of obtaining supplies caused by the great demands made by the Ministry of Munitions on all kinds of metals has affected Burma not so much by cutting off supplies as by making her pay a very heavy price. The decline in imports was 4 per cent. by weight, but the value of this reduced quantity was 13 per cent. higher than the value of the previous year. The decline in importations of brass and copper was very heavy. The total value of imports under the head *Hardware* was Rs. 25·63 lakhs, a fall of Rs. 4·57 lakhs or 15 per cent. on comparison with the figures for 1914-15. The United Kingdom's contribution was Rs. 16·42 lakhs as against Rs. 19·55 lakhs, the United States of America following with Rs. 6·41 lakhs as against Rs. 3·57 lakhs. Enamelled ironware was formerly principally supplied by Germany and Austria-Hungary; it is now arriving from Japan, her contribution being Rs. 1·48 lakh as against Rs. ·13 lakh in the previous year. Agricultural implements, buckets, domestic hardware, metal lamps and parts, safes and strong boxes and miscellaneous articles under "other sorts" were supplied mainly by the United Kingdom. Implements and tools came chiefly from the United States of America, consignments being valued at Rs. 3·80 lakhs as against Rs. 1·35 lakh. The total value of *provisions and oilmanstores* imported fell by Rs. 1·98 lakh to Rs. 57·68 lakhs but, owing to increased prices, this figure does not adequately express the decrease in quantity. The war has caused an all round rise in prices of imported provisions and this, combined with decreased purchasing power and with shipping difficulties, led to a decrease in importation. The total value of the imports of *Fish (excluding canned fish)* was Rs. 50·70 lakhs in 1914-15 and fell to Rs. 48·14 lakhs in the year of report. Foreign imports, mainly from the Straits Settlements, showed an appreciable decline, probably owing to the lack of regular steamship connection. The coasting trade, however, showed little change, except in distribution by provinces. Madras and Bengal each improved their contributions, while Bombay and Sind sent less; this again was due to the interruption of shipping. The quantity of *salt* imported fell from 68,985 to 59,378 tons but its value increased from Rs. 14·38 lakhs to Rs. 25·39 lakhs. At one period of the year, in September, a famine seemed imminent but several cargoes arrived just in time to ease the situation. About half the imports came from Spain. The quantity of sugar imported was 463,947 cwt. valued at Rs. 71·83 lakhs; in 1914-15 the quantity was 402,923 cwt. and the value Rs. 44·82 lakhs. This marked recovery in imports was due to the easier position of the Java trade after the British Committee had obtained all its requirements. Imports of sugar from India declined from 26,483 cwt. to 12,969 cwt. The quantity of *liquors* imported rose from 972,682 gallons in 1914-15 to 983,138 gallons and the value from Rs. 30·84 lakhs to Rs. 33·68 lakhs. The quantity of beer imported was less but the value greater by 9·8 per cent. Imports of spirits increased by 13·6 per cent in quantity and 9·6 per cent. in value. The trade in *tobacco* showed a marked recovery. Foreign imports rose by 150,797 lbs. and Rs. 4·66 lakhs to 651,897 lbs. valued at Rs. 18·92 lakhs, and the coasting trade increased by 3,626,874 lbs. and Rs. 6·20 lakhs to 14,902,862 lbs. with a value of Rs. 38·32 lakhs. The number of motor-cars imported was 296 as compared with 157 in 1914-15 and the value increased from Rs. 5·12 lakhs to Rs. 7·44 lakhs. Of the total 256 cars came from America. Among the articles classified as miscellaneous there were decreases in *arms, ammunition and military stores, sulphuric acid, coal, cutlery, cycles, earthenware and porcelain, paper and pasteboard, soap*

and betelnuts and increases in *building and engineering materials, sulphur, fruits and vegetables, matches, and jute manufactures.*

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Rangoon trade; foreign exports.

114. Of exports from Rangoon to foreign countries 57·16 per cent. and of exports to India 53·62 per cent. consisted of rice,—*husked and unhusked.* The total value of this commodity exported was Rs. 14,59·99 lakhs as compared with Rs. 15,82·22 lakhs in 1914-15. Over half of this quantity was exported to India whence there was a good demand owing to scarcity in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa, and Madras. In the foreign trade, despite a good demand, business was difficult and uncertain on account of the enormous advance in freights, the scarcity of steamers and the risk of their being requisitioned, and the restrictions imposed in order to prevent supplies or trading profits reaching enemy countries. The average charter rate for rice to Europe for the four years preceding the war was 25*s.* 10*d.* per ton, in February—March 1916 the rate paid was 175*s.* a ton. In spite of high freights foreign exports of *rice-bran* improved. Shipments from Rangoon were 176,319 tons, an increase of 7,043 tons over the figures of the previous year. The trade in *teakwood* has been badly hit by the war. In 1914-15 the total exports from Rangoon were 107,130 cubic tons valued at Rs. 1,51·84 lakhs; in 1915-16 the figures were 101,202 cubic tons and Rs. 1,38·48 lakhs. The demand from the United Kingdom and elsewhere declined owing to the suspension of private ship-building and railway carriage construction, while exports to foreign countries were subject to severe restrictions. The reduced demand led to a fairly steady fall in prices. The decline in foreign business was only partially set off by an increase of 5,841 cubic tons in the quantity exported to India. *In and pyinkado* are the main items under the heading *Wood—other timber.* Exports from Rangoon and Moulmein to foreign countries and India declined by 13,193 cubic tons and Rs. 13·10 lakhs to 27,074 cubic tons valued at Rs. 16·54 lakhs. The bulk went to Bengal and Bombay. The exports of *mineral oils* again broke previous records, rising from 143,845,144 gallons valued at Rs. 4,60·94 lakhs in 1914-15 to 147,001,406 gallons valued at Rs. 4,68·56 lakhs in 1915-16, an increase of 2·2 per cent. in volume and 1·6 per cent. in value. Exports of kerosene oil to India, the principal market for this product, were slightly larger than in the previous year; more than half went to Bengal. Nowithstanding the restrictions placed on the export of *paraffin wax* the total shipments during the year were almost as great as during the previous year when the highest figure was recorded. They aggregated 344,951 cwt. valued at Rs. 77·05 lakhs as against 354,288 cwt. valued at Rs. 78·27 lakhs. The United Kingdom was the largest customer with 124,363 cwt. valued at Rs. 28·29 lakhs as against 94,303 cwt. with a value of Rs. 21·41 lakhs. The increase was due to the use of the article in the manufacture of munitions. Despite the existence of restrictions similar to those in force in the case of paraffin wax exports of candles were on a satisfactory scale, totalling 6,152,065 lbs. valued at Rs. 17·28 lakhs as against 7,838,221 lbs. with a value of Rs. 22·04 lakhs in 1914-15. The United Kingdom was the best customer, her takings being 1,447,629 lbs. valued at Rs. 4·07 lakhs, as against 513,766 lbs. with a value of Rs. 1·44 lakh; the figures are the highest on record. Shipments to China on the other hand were only 307,349 lbs. valued at Rs. ·84 lakh, a decline of 2,507,717 lbs. and Rs. 7·08 lakhs. The trade in *hides and skins* showed a decrease in quantity from 90,831 to 89,465 cwt. or 1·5 per cent. though the number of pieces increased, while in value there was a rise from Rs. 52·36 lakhs to Rs. 56·84 lakhs or 8·6 per cent. Prices ruled high on account of the pressing demands of the leather trade owing to the war. The quantity of *cotton (raw)* exported, which in 1914-15 was 235,003 cwt. valued at Rs. 67·80 lakhs, fell in 1915-16 to 141,603 cwt. valued at Rs. 41·01 lakhs. Owing to the poor prices realised by the crop of 1914-15 the area cultivated with this crop was reduced by about 30 per cent. and weather conditions were not favourable for securing a full yield. The foreign export trade in *cotton seed* is apparently extinct, no shipments having been made during the year. Exports to India were only 6,677 cwt. as compared with 40,070 cwt. in 1914-15 and 93,532 cwt. in 1913-14. The war has had serious effects on the trade in *groundnuts.* Exports to Hong-kong, which in 1913-14 took 538,254 cwt. and in 1914-15, 37,993 cwt.,

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completely ceased owing to high freights and scarcity of shipping. Exports to India were practically *nil*. Groundnut oil to the extent of 77,388 gallons valued at Rs. 1·14 lakh was exported to foreign countries, being 75,548 gallons and Rs. 1·10 lakh more than the previous year's figures and the highest yet recorded. Almost all went to the United Kingdom. No oil was exported to India. Exports of groundnut oilcake to foreign countries declined by 65,391 cwt. and Rs. 1·29 lakh to 776,482 cwt. valued at Rs 22·09 lakhs; all went to the United Kingdom. Exports of *beans* to foreign countries were 34,184 tons valued at Rs. 39·45 lakhs, an increase of 2,762 tons in quantity and Rs. 11·61 lakhs in value; to India the exports were 16,970 tons valued at Rs. 14·70 lakhs as compared with 12,126 tons valued at Rs. 11·38 lakhs in the previous year. Shipments of rubber aggregated 1,285,984 lbs. valued at Rs. 30·69 lakhs, an increase of 298,592 lbs. and Rs. 10·54 lakhs over the figures of the previous year. Owing to its being in great demand as a tanning material the exports of *cutch* surpassed all previous records. The total shipments were 170,517 cwt. valued at Rs. 30·65 lakhs as compared with 86,951 cwt. valued at Rs. 16·79 lakhs in the previous year, an increase of 96 per cent. in volume and 83 per cent. in value. Exports of *lac* to foreign countries fell from 836 cwt. valued at Rs. ·16 lakh to 93 cwt. with a value of Rs. ·04 lakh. The exports to India were 19,344 cwt. valued at Rs. 2·95 lakhs as against 2,962 cwt. worth Rs. ·70 lakh in 1914-15. *Pig lead* was in keen demand, supplies at the mines were larger, and the result was an increase in the quantity exported from 6,499 tons to 10,846 tons and in the value from Rs. 17·22 lakhs to Rs. 35·84 lakhs, an increase of 67 per cent. in volume and 108 per cent. in value. *Wolfram* is another product for which the war has created an exceptional demand. Exports in 1915-16 were 2,629 tons with a value of Rs. 53·10 lakhs as compared with 1,916 tons and Rs. 26·37 lakhs in 1914-15. The outbreak of war nearly put a stop to the trade in zinc ore, exports of which fell from 4,887 tons valued at Rs. 3·42 lakhs in 1914-15 to 87 tons valued at Rs. ·05 lakh. The quantity of jadestone exported was 4,381 cwt., the highest on record. The value, however, was only Rs. 5·47 lakhs or Rs. 2·76 lakhs less than the value of the 4,194 cwt. exported in 1914-15.

Rangoon trade: British share.

115. The increase of the share of the United Kingdom and the British Empire in the trade of the Province which began in 1914-15 continued in the following year. In the total trade the percentage of the United Kingdom rose from 43·98 to 47·33; a decline from 58·46 to 54·40 per cent. in imports being balanced by an increase from 32·41 to 41·12 in exports. The percentage of the total imports which came from the British Empire fell from 68·12 to 63·63, but the exports to the British Empire which in 1914-15 were 66·50 in 1915-16 were 71·92 per cent. of the whole. Of the total trade 68·04 per cent. was with the British Empire as compared with 67·22 per cent. in the previous year. Trade with Germany and Austria-Hungary which in 1913-14 was 9·64 and 1·9 per cent. of the total respectively has disappeared. The most noteworthy increases are in the share of Japan from 3·85 to 6·07 per cent. of the total and of the United States from 3·55 to 5·57 per cent. A further increase from 4·23 to 5·13 per cent. took place in the share of Java. While exports to Japan fell from 2·33 to 2·27 per cent. of the whole, imports from that country showed a remarkable increase from 5·74 to 10·39 per cent. In the case of the United States also the increase was wholly in imports, from 6·09 to 10·45 per cent., exports falling from 1·52 to 1·28 per cent. It is evident that the place of Germany and Austria-Hungary as importers into the Province is being largely taken by Japan and the United States. After the British Empire the leading places in the trade of Burma are now held by Japan, the United States and Java.

Rangoon: coasting trade.

116. The value of the coasting trade of Rangoon which in 1914-15 was Rs. 1,85·99 lakhs fell to Rs. 1,38·89 lakhs during 1915-16, a decrease of Rs. 47·09 lakhs. Imports were valued at Rs. 43·59 lakhs as compared with Rs. 55·37 lakhs and exports at Rs. 95·30 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,30·61 lakhs. Far the greatest part of this decrease was due to the stoppage of regular steamer traffic between Rangoon and Moulmein. The trade was mainly between Rangoon and the Tenasserim ports.

Subordinate ports.

117. The percentage of the total foreign and coasting trade of the Province which fell to Rangoon was 83·61 as compared with 82·02 in the previous year. Of the remaining 16·39 per cent. Moulmein took 4·24 per cent., Akyab 4·05, Bassein 5·05, Tavoy 1·71, Mergui 1·16, Kyaukpyu ·06, Victoria Point ·05 and Sandoway ·07. The decline in the shares of Akyab and Moulmein was due to the withdrawal of steamer services. The coasting trade figures of Akyab showed an increase on account of improved supervision over country boats. The exports of teak from Moulmein increased from 29,867 to 33,705 cubic tons and their value from Rs. 37·58 lakhs to Rs. 41·48 lakhs. The gross revenue collections at the subordinate ports amounted to Rs. 11·43 lakhs as against Rs. 15·19 lakhs, showing a fall of Rs. 3·76 lakhs or 24·8 per cent. Of this sum Rs. 10·21 lakhs represented export duty on rice. The gross duty collections at the various ports were as follows: Bassein Rs. 7·86 lakhs, Akyab Rs. 1·76 lakh, Moulmein Rs. 1·16 lakh, Tavoy Rs. ·48 lakh, Mergui Rs. ·13 lakh, and Victoria Point Rs. ·04 lakh. A new Combined Port Fund and Customs Office at Tavoy was approaching completion at the end of the year.

Trans-frontier trade: total trade.

118. The total value of the trade of Burma with transfrontier countries, which in 1914-15 was Rs. 7,67·61 lakhs, was in 1915-16 Rs. 7,46·31 lakhs. The value of imports increased from Rs. 3,90·55 lakhs to Rs. 3,96·32 lakhs but the exports which in the former year were valued at Rs. 3,77·05 lakhs fell in the latter to a value of Rs. 3,49·99 lakhs. The value of the trade in merchandise, treasure, and timber represents respectively 75, 22 and 3 per cent. of the total trade of the Province. There was a considerable decline in the trade with all the frontier states except Western China and the Northern Shan States, and the aggregate trade of the Province consequently fell by Rs. 21 lakhs or 2·77 per cent. The decrease was due to the unfavourable economic conditions which prevailed throughout the year.

Western China.

119. The trade between Western China and Bhamo, constituted a record, amounting to Rs. 1,35·51 lakhs, or an increase of 3·58 per cent. as compared with the value of the trade in the preceding year. A larger expansion would have resulted but the uncertain political outlook in Yünnan caused a contraction in the trade during the last quarter of the period. The commandeering of mules by the military authorities at Têngyüeh for the transport of troops to Yünnan-fu caused a lack of transport facilities and the corresponding increase in freight rates militated against normal trade during that period. The import trade shewed an expansion of Rs. 15·22 lakhs or 20·82 per cent., the increase being mainly due to larger imports of silver the value of which rose from Rs. 53·75 lakhs to Rs. 69·05 lakhs. It is said that purchases of silk in Ssüchuan were paid for by exporting treasure to Burma whence remittances to Ssüchuan were made by drafts on foreign banks in Hongkong and Shanghai. The heavy rise in the price of silver at the end of 1915 was possibly another cause for the inflated value of the silver imports, and this probably stimulated Chinese merchants in Burma to import a larger quantity of raw silk from Ssüchuan, the value exceeding that of the previous year by Rs. 88,075. The trade in hides fell by Rs. 47,456 probably owing to the closure of European markets and also to lack of tonnage. This fall was, however, in a measure counteracted by a rise of Rs. 44,106 in the value of orpiment imported, owing no doubt to the cessation of competition due to the difficulty in getting foreign dyes and paints from Europe. The value of exports on the other hand shows a heavy fall of Rs. 10·51 lakhs or 18·22 per cent., raw cotton accounting for a decrease of Rs. 3·86 lakhs and Indian twist and yarn of Rs. 4·22 lakhs. The decline was apparently due to the heavy exports in the last quarter of the preceding year which led to over-stocking of markets. The difficulty in obtaining aniline dyes was another cause. The trade in cotton piece-goods also shows a decrease of Rs. 1·47 lakh owing to restricted imports from Europe as a result of the war.

Unadministered Kachin country and the Northern Shan States.

120. The trade with unadministered Kachin country declined in imports from Rs. 6·32 lakhs to Rs. 5·25 lakhs and in exports from Rs. 8·02 lakhs to Rs. 6·56 lakhs. The value of the trade carried on during the previous

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year was abnormally high. The imports from the Northern Shan States increased by Rs. 19·85 lakhs or 13·60 per cent. to Rs. 1,65·71 lakhs and the exports by Rs. 15·28 lakhs or 10·09 per cent. to Rs. 1,66·68 lakhs. In both cases the increase was chiefly in the rail-borne trade due to the rapid development of their property by the Burma Mines Company at Namtu. The value of copper and lead imported from the mines rose by Rs. 2·80 lakhs and Rs. 11·82 lakhs respectively. There was also an increase in the value of iron (Rs. 3·35 lakhs) and railway materials (Rs. 5·01 lakhs) returned to Burma. On the other hand a falling off of Rs. 5·88 lakhs occurred under other metals as shipments of ore to Europe for smelting practically ceased. Of indigenous products of the States, apart from metals, potatoes, gums, lac, sessamum, spices, black tea, and teak showed an increase. Husked rice, hides, and pickled tea however decreased in value. As regards exports the largest increase was under coal and coke for the use of the Burma Mines Company, which rose from Rs. 3·34 lakhs to Rs. 10·94 lakhs. The trade in twist and yarn, the principal through trade with China, was stagnant and Indian twist declined by Rs. 92,681. The increase in cotton piece-goods was in the Kēngtūng trade. The value of husked rice and iron exported expanded by Rs. 2·53 lakhs and Rs. 4·60 lakhs respectively. An increase under silk is noticed yearly as the standard of living rises. But the trade of the States apart from that caused by the Burma Mines, suffered from the rise in prices caused by the war. German and Austrian cloth was still selling at Namkham, but Japanese miscellaneous articles were gradually replacing those of German and Austrian make in the local bazaars.

The Southern Shan States.

121. Unlike the Northern Shan States the value of both import and export trade in the Southern Shan States declined by Rs. 2·85 lakhs and Rs. 12·51 lakhs to Rs. 74·94 lakhs and Rs. 92·55 lakhs respectively. This is accounted for by the unfavourable trade conditions occasioned by the war. The principal fall was in the cattle trade which recorded a decrease of Rs. 10·77 lakhs; this is attributed to a decline in the purchasing power of agriculturists. The trade in raw hides declined by about half a lakh in value partly as a result of the internment of aliens who largely managed this trade. On the other hand owing to the curing of leather in the States the imports of manufactured leather therefrom increased by Rs. 3·36 lakhs. The over-production of potatoes in the preceding year and the low prices obtained for the crop resulted in restricted cultivation. Nevertheless there was a small increase in the value of potatoes exported to Burma. The restricted imports of potatoes from India during the year owing to the shortage of tonnage and high freight rates, it is said, combined to make the local crop more valuable. The value of *Thanatpet* advanced by Rs. 4·15 lakhs, the increase being attributed to a larger demand for cigar wrappers and to fair prices being obtained for the crop; much of the increase was in the rail-borne trade. In exports to the States, the principal decline was in cotton, silk, and woollen piece-goods which fell respectively by Rs. 3·42, Rs. 6·19 and Rs. 3·20 lakhs in value. The only noticeable increase in exports was under iron and railway materials due to completion of the construction of the Southern Shan States railway. As a result of the heavy decrease in the import of cattle the export of silver to these States fell by Rs. 7·41 lakhs. This was the first full year of rail trade since the opening of the Thazi-Aungban railway and it is interesting to note that of the total trade of Rs. 1,67·49 lakhs the railway accounted for Rs. 93·94 lakhs or 56 per cent. The railway has drawn away much of the trade formerly carried on by the routes near the line.

Siam and Karenni.

122. The effects of the war caused a decrease in the quantities imported of almost all commodities from Northern Siam. The total value of such imports fell from Rs. 39·61 lakhs to Rs. 25·15 lakhs the largest decreases being in cattle (Rs. 6 lakhs) and teak (Rs. 5 lakhs); the value of elephants increased by half a lakh. The value of exports to Northern Siam was Rs. 23·85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 31·31 lakhs in 1914-15, the principal decreases being under the heads of cotton twist and yarn, piece-goods, and silver. There was a slight advance in raw silk and manufactured leather. The decrease in exports was also partly

due to the improved railway and other communications in Siam which enabled some of the Siamese frontier districts to obtain their supplies through Bangkôk instead of through Moulmein. Imports from Southern Siam fell from Rs. 20·40 lakhs to Rs. 14·01 lakhs and exports to Southern Siam from Rs. 12·52 lakhs to Rs. 6·44 lakhs in value, decreases of 31 and 48 per cent respectively. The value of cattle imported declined by Rs. 3 lakhs and of elephants by about Rs. 1½ lakhs probably on account of the general situation caused by the war; and consequently silver in cash, mostly exported for the purchase of cattle and elephants, declined by Rs. 5·52 lakhs. Imports from Karenni were valued at Rs. 22·89 lakhs and exports to Karenni at Rs. 6·69 lakhs in 1915-16. The corresponding figures for 1914-15 were Rs. 27·41 lakhs and Rs. 11·01 lakhs. The import trade in cattle and teak and the export of silver dropped. The value of wolfram imported from Karenni increased from Rs. 1·68 lakh in 1914-15 to Rs 3·54 lakhs.

Public Works.

Administrative and Gereral.

123. No administrative changes took place in the Public Works Department during the year. The total expenditure on buildings and roads was Rs. 1,41·07 lakhs out of grants aggregating Rs. 1,49·50 lakhs. Owing to the financial stringency caused by the war the Government of India were obliged to withhold permission to expenditure from the unexpended balances of the various non-recurring educational grants. Funds to the extent of Rs. 1·31 lakh were provided from savings in the Provincial budget for the completion of educational works in progress. Type plans for high schools remained under revision by the consulting architect to the Local Government.

(*i*) *Roads and Buildings.*

Communications.

124. The total length of metalled roads outside Municipal boundaries in the Province was at the close of the year 1,937·55 miles and of unmetalled roads 10,734·03. Of this 5·43 miles of metalled road and 1,760·12 miles of unmetalled road were maintained by local authorities and the remainder by the Public Works Department. The last instalment of the grant of Rs. 50 lakhs made by the Government of India, amounting to Rs. 11·30 lakhs, was expended on improvements to communications. The total expenditure on communications, which in 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 63·18 lakhs, was Rs. 54·74 lakhs, of which Rs. 21·30 lakhs were spent on original works and Rs. 33·44 lakhs on repairs. Considerable progress was made in the construction of the roads necessary for the development of wolfram mining in Tavoy and Mergui Districts. In order to facilitate the equipment of the Province with an organised system of roads a standing advisory committee was appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor, in order to advise Government regarding the main lines of policy to be followed in the maintenance and development of communications, whether by road, rail or river, throughout the Province, and to consider the relative merits of the various schemes prepared with this end in view. It will examine the question of the relative urgency of the provision of main trunk roads for through communication or of the construction of new feeder roads to the railway, and will discuss the action to be taken in view of the gradual silting up of many of the creeks in the delta of the Irrawaddy, and advise whether to maintain the water-ways by means of dredging, or to accept their progressive deterioration as inevitable and supplement them by roads and railways. In the Tavoy District an expenditure of Rs. 49,180, bringing the total up to Rs. 1,29,080 was incurred on improvements to the Pagayè-Myitta road. The bridge over the Pauktaing stream on the Tavoy-Pandaw-Sinbyubin road was completed at a total cost of Rs. 1,01,854. Work was in progress on bridge renewals on the Tavoy-Pagayè and Pagayè-Myitta roads. The replacement of worn out timber bridges by structures of more permanent materials was in progress in many districts. Improvements on the frontier roads in the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts were still in progress and the routine of road maintenance and improvement was carried on throughout the Province.

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Buildings: Imperial and Provincial.

125. The expenditure on Civil Imperial works during the year was Rs. 7·38 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·45 lakhs in the previous year. The new Customs-house and the new telegraph office at Rangoon were practically completed. At Maymyo a 30 kilowatt wireless telegraph station was nearly completed and at Akyab a general post office was well in hand. The expenditure on Civil Provincial buildings, which in the previous year was Rs. 33·34 lakhs, amounted to Rs. 20·92 lakhs of which Rs. 13·34 lakhs was incurred for original works and Rs. 7·58 lakhs for repairs. The sum of Rs. 1·04 lakh was expended on the extension to the Jail at Insein. Steel construction had to be abandoned as it was impossible to obtain rolled steel joists. Considerable progress was made with the erection of the buildings at Mawlaik which has been selected as the new headquarters of the Upper Chindwin District. The work of building new police-stations and quarters for the civil police was in progress or completed in fifteen districts. Work was also proceeding on numerous schools, court-houses, jails and hospitals throughout the Province.

Miscellaneous public improvements and sanitary works.

126. A sum of Rs. 4·08 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·28 lakhs was for original works, was expended on public improvements as compared with Rs. 3·10 lakhs in the previous year. The clearing of the sites for the new civil buildings at Mawlaik was in progress at an estimated cost of nearly Rs. 20,000, and measures were taken for the protection from erosion of the left bank of the Chindwin River at that place at an estimated cost of Rs. 65,084. In Pyapôn District the reclamation and levelling of the site of Kyaiklat town were completed and work was in progress on raising the level of the town and civil station of Pyapôn and the protection of the foreshore at Bogale. In the port of Bassein one of the jetties was reconstructed on a new site; in the district one screw-pile jetty was completed and on another work was begun. In Sandoway work was started on the construction of a jetty at Andrew Bay estimated to cost Rs. 65,232. The work of re-erection and improvement of bazaars was undertaken in fifteen districts. The following is a summary of the work done in providing water supplies to towns: a start was made with the Ma-ubin scheme estimated to cost Rs. 1·03 lakh, the Kyaiklat scheme was completed at a cost of Rs. 65,094, materials were collected for the extension of the Minbu water-works, work on the Yamèthin and Pyawbwè schemes was stopped, on the Kalaw scheme the expenditure was Rs. 1·26 lakh for the year, the Mônywa scheme was completed at a total cost of Rs. 1·17 lakh, and in Bhamo a tube well sunk to a depth of 370 feet produced enough water to justify the preparation of an estimate for the supply of water to the town from this source. In Rangoon the expenditure incurred on reclamation and equipment of reclaimed areas was in round figures Rs. 3·00 lakhs of which Rs. 32,306 was for work done for private persons. A drainage scheme at Paungdè was completed; on the Toungoo drainage scheme the expenditure was Rs. 51,424, about 70 per cent. of the work being completed. Work on the reclamation of the swamps within the embankment at Kyaukpyu was continued. Of the five blocks into which the scheme is divided one has been entirely and three partly filled in, the fifth being untouched. In Akyab Town the drainage of one area was nearly finished and of another about half was completed; the total cost of the scheme at the end of the year was Rs. 65,571. The Maymyo surface drainage scheme was completed at a cost of Rs. 86,562.

(*ii*) *Railways and Tramways.*

Railways: construction and surveys.

127. The railways of the Province are worked by the Burma Railways Company, Limited. No additions were made to the length of open line during the year and it remained at 1,598·46 miles. No lines were under construction during the year. The survey of the coast route of the proposed railway line to connect India and Burma was completed and the report and estimates are under consideration. It was decided that the Manipur route for the same connection should be definitely abandoned and that the survey for a line through the Hukong Valley should be postponed. The Railway Board decided that the Southern Shan States Railway should be extended from the present terminus at Aungban

to Heho, a distance of about 18 miles, and that a survey of the extension should be made by the Burma Railways Company. This was completed and the report is under consideration. A formal application was received during the year for permission to construct a branch line from Kyangin to Petye in the Henzada District on the terms sanctioned by the Government of India for the construction of branch lines and was referred to the Railway Board for orders. No further steps were taken for the construction of branch lines in the Tenasserim Division. A proposal for the formation of a new company to take over and complete the construction of the tramway from Buthidaung to Maungdaw in the Akyab District on a joint guarantee from Imperial, Provincial and District Cess Funds was under consideration.

Interruptions and accidents.

128. An engine, running into a bundle of gunny bags accidentally dropped on the line in Letpadan station, was derailed and this caused eleven goods waggons of various kinds to be telescoped and three to be derailed, in addition to considerable damage to the permanent way and interlocking gear. The total damage was estimated at Rs. 13,000. Through the overturning of an engine which ran into a buffalo between Mogaung and Taungni stations two firemen and a driver lost their lives. The cost of repairing damage caused was estimated at Rs. 9,550. Another fireman was killed by the derailment of an engine near Meiktila caused by the incorrect setting of catch points. The Southern Shan States Branch was closed from the 13th till the 17th May 1915 owing to landslips in cuttings and breaches in the vicinity of Payangazu station. On the 16th May numerous breaches in the line were caused by floods between Thityabin and Kotaungbo stations in the Katha District and through communication was interrupted till the 19th May. Other breaches by flood causing short interruptions of traffic occurred on the Lashio Branch, on the Mônywa Branch, between Mohnyin and Namma stations in Katha District, near Hopin in Myitkyina District, and for a second time on the Mônywa Branch in September and on the Southern Shan States Branch in November.

Traffic and finance.

129. The number of passengers carried during the year was 27,738,360 as compared with 27,045,123 in 1914-15. The gross earnings were Rs. 2,20·82 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2,33·86 lakhs and gross working expenses fell from Rs. 1,34·09 lakhs to Rs. 1,29·65 lakhs. The net profit for the year fell from Rs. 99·77 lakhs to Rs. 91·17 lakhs. On the main line, the property of the Burma Railways Company, Limited, the capital outlay during the year was Rs. 8·68 lakhs thus raising the total expenditure since the commencement of operations to Rs. 17,80·92 lakhs. The mileage remained at 1,341·85 the same as in the previous year but the train mileage run diminished from 5,218,680 to 4,767,702. Net earnings decreased from Rs. 94·60 lakhs to Rs. 84·33 lakhs, or by Rs. 10·27 lakhs. Gross earnings were Rs. 16·71 lakhs less at Rs. 1,99·86 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 6·44 lakhs less at Rs. 1,15·52 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings was 57·80 as against 56·32 in the previous year and the percentage of net receipts on capital outlay fell from 5·32 to 4·80. The capital account of the Pegu-Moulmein Railway was reduced by Rs. 5,873 and now stands at Rs. 1,55·24 lakhs; on the Henzada-Kyangin Railway a similar reduction of Rs. 34,164 left the capital account at the end of the year Rs. 65·21 lakhs. The capital outlay on the open line of the Southern Shan States Railway was Rs. 3·22 lakhs thus raising the total expenditure from the commencement of operations to Rs. 1,55·88 lakhs. The train mileage on the Pegu-Moulmein line was 365,827 as against 411,855 but gross earnings increased from Rs. 20·38 lakhs to Rs. 24·63 lakhs while working expenses remained the same at Rs. 8·94 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings fell from 66·83 to 61·09 and the percentage of net receipts to capital outlay rose from 2·86 to 3·67. The train mileage of the Henzada-Kyangin Railway increased from 88,826 to 107,073 but its gross earnings fell from Rs. 3·05 to Rs. 2·94 lakhs and working expenses from Rs. 2·37 lakhs to Rs. 2·01 lakhs. The percentage of expenses to earnings fell from 77·88 to 68·47 and the percentage of net receipts to capital outlay rose from 1·03 to 1·42. The mean mileage worked on the Southern Shan States Railway increased

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from 35·63 miles to 69·68 miles and the train mileage from 35,618 to 111,404. Gross earnings were Rs. 3·39 lakhs and working expenses Rs. 3·18 lakhs, the corresponding figures for the previous year being Rs. 87,016 and Rs. 81,017. The percentage of expenses to earnings was 93·68 as against 93·10 and the net receipts on capital outlay ·14 as compared with ·04 per cent.

Tramways.

*130. The total number of passengers carried by the Rangoon Tramways during the year was 10,811,406, or 76,823 fewer than in the previous year. The running mileage was computed at 1,446,512 as against 1,460,288 in 1914-15. The total receipts were Rs. 8,61,301 as compared with Rs. 8,66,615. The Burma Electric Tramways and Lighting Company, Limited, at Mandalay carried 2,559,101 passengers with a total mileage run of 502,507 as compared with 2,579,051 passengers and a mileage run of 488,317 in the previous year. The receipts were Rs. 2·03 lakhs as against Rs. 2·05 lakhs. Work on the extension to the terminus of the Mandalay-Madaya light railway was begun and a further extension of time for the completion of the line was granted.

(*iii*) *Canals.*

Navigation canals.

131. The Pegu-Sittang Canal in the Pegu District and the Sittang-Kyaikto Canal in the Thatôn District are the only canals in the Province maintained out of canal dues and used solely for navigation. In the Pegu-Sittang Canal a suction dredger continued working in the shallow sections between miles 33 and 34. The soil is hard and, the dredger being of the type used for the removal of soft silt, the result was poor though some good was effected. Work was stopped in December 1915. The canal was blocked occasionally with the floating hyacinth weed (Eichhornia crassipes) with consequent delay to traffic. An attempt to prevent the weed from coming into the canal from the Thanatpin swamp by the construction of a protective fence of barbed wire attached to floating bamboos proved unsuccessful. Petty repairs were carried out on the Minywa and Kyaikpadaing sluices to stop small leaks. The Abya sluice showed signs of dangerous leakage. Dams were built across the approach and discharge channels, the water pumped out and the foundations opened up for inspection which revealed eight faulty bays. Proposals for thorough repairs are now under consideration. The maintenance charges of this canal were Rs. 72,289 as compared with Rs. 98,693 in the previous year. The gross receipts were Rs. 1·67 lakh and working expenses Rs. 1·39 lakh, showing a profit of Rs. 28,204 instead of a loss of Rs. 7,399 as in the year before. The Sittang-Kyaikto Canal was breached by the erosion of the Sittang River on the 7th November 1915. Two cross bunds were constructed to prevent the river water entering and causing further damage to the surrounding country. At the end of March 1916 the breach in the bank was 758 feet wide. The canal was abandoned and the lock gates closed on 14th January 1915. Maintenance charges were only Rs. 4,710 as against Rs. 25,090 in the previous year. Kyaikkatha and Mukamu bridges over the canal were closed to cart traffic as they were in a dangerous condition. The total expenditure on navigation works during the year was Rs. 1·44 lakh and the receipts Rs. 1·67 lakh leaving a net revenue of Rs. 22,572. On the scheme for the improvement of the Twante Canal, the chief water-way for cargo boats and launches between the Rangoon River and the China Bakir River the expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 8·89 lakhs bringing the total outlay to the end of the year to Rs. 68·73 lakhs. The sum of Rs. 4·64 lakhs was spent on excavation, Rs. 1·19 lakh on the provision of a new terminal pontoon for one dredger and Rs. ·49 lakh on laterite pitching on the foreshore of the Kanaungto Creek. About 6¼ miles of the canal were widened and deepened of which 2 miles were in the new cut at Seikkyi. The Shwetachaung Canal is used partly for irrigation and partly for navigation, serving the local traffic between Mandalay and Madaya. A heavy flood in September did considerable damage to the right bank of its feeder channel. The total outlay incurred in necessary repairs and ordinary maintenance was Rs. 3,200.

Irrigation.

Major irrigation works.

132. There are four works classed as major irrigation works—the Mandalay Canal, the Shwebo Canal, the Môn Canals and the Ye-u Canal. The total area irrigated increased from 274,604 acres to 277,792 acres; revenue receipts rose from Rs. 13·33 lakhs to Rs. 16·59 lakhs; working expenses fell from Rs. 9·94 lakhs to Rs. 6·46 lakhs; the net revenue increased from Rs. 3·39 lakhs to Rs. 10·13 lakhs, representing a profit of 3·70 per cent. on a capital outlay of Rs. 2,73·62 lakhs as against a profit of 1·31 per cent. on a capital outlay of Rs. 2,58·96 lakhs in 1914-15. The total area irrigated from the Mandalay Canal was 60,451 acres as against 59,720 acres in the previous year. The reconstruction of the headworks, severely damaged by a flood in the previous year, was not complete and the full capacity of the canal for irrigation could not therefore be utilised. The high level pipes from the main canal did better than in 1914-15. In the previous year the working of the canal had resulted in a loss of Rs. 1·04 lakh; in the year of report gross revenue amounted to Rs. 3·55 lakhs as against Rs. 3·66 lakhs, but working expenses were reduced from Rs. 4·70 lakhs to Rs. 1·50 lakh and a net revenue was left of Rs. 2·05 lakhs. The poor results of the previous year were due to the heavy expenditure required to make good flood damage. The area irrigated from the Shwebo Canal was 165,287 acres as compared with 161,739 acres and 170,850 acres in 1914-15 and 1913-14 respectively. The reason why the figures of 1913-14 were not reached was that less land was taken up on speculation by migratory cultivators with whom the preceding season had not been prosperous. Gross revenue was Rs. 8·15 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·58 lakhs, working expenses Rs. 2·86 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·05 lakhs and net revenue Rs. 5·29 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·53 lakhs. This is equivalent to a profit of 9·01 per cent. on a capital outlay to the end of the year of Rs. 58·72 lakhs. The area irrigated by the Môn Canals was 52,054 acres as against 53,145 acres in 1914-15. The decrease was due almost entirely to damage caused by floods in the Irrawaddy. The revenue assessment for the year was Rs. 3·35 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·15 lakhs in the previous year but the actual gross receipts were Rs. 4·89 lakhs as against Rs. 2·09 lakhs owing to the fact that large arrears of revenue due on account of the previous year were collected in the year of report. Another consequence of such extensive arrear collections is that while in 1914-15 the figures shew a loss on the working of the canals of Rs. 10,232, in the present year there is a net revenue of Rs. 2·79 lakhs. This confusion of the collections of two years' revenue makes it impossible to draw any useful conclusion as to the rate of profit earned on capital expenditure. The Ye-u Canal is still under construction. The expenditure on it during the year was Rs. 4·30 lakhs and the total expenditure till the end of the year Rs. 31·73 lakhs.

Minor irrigation works.

133. The rainfall was above the average in Mandalay District and the only damage caused to minor irrigation works was by flood. In Kyauksè the irrigation season was wholly favourable, no damage being caused by flood and the supply of water in the rivers invariably sufficient. In Meiktila the middle rains failed and the early and late rains came at the wrong time to be of any use for purposes of irrigation. Crops in the irrigated tracts were consequently very poor. In Yamèthin also the rains were unfavourable. No capital accounts are kept for minor irrigation works. The area irrigated from them rose from 298,507 acres in 1914-15 to 299,218 acres. Receipts amounted to Rs. 12·52 lakhs as against Rs. 11·42 lakhs in the previous year. Working expenses rose from Rs. 6·58 lakhs to Rs. 6·83 lakhs, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 5·69 lakhs as against a net revenue of Rs. 4·84 lakhs in the previous year. A few of these minor irrigation works may be noticed. The area irrigated by the Shwetachaung Canal in Mandalay District was 14,866 acres as against 14,792 acres in 1914-15. Damage was done by two heavy floods in the Irrawaddy and remissions thereby necessitated reduced the revenue demand from Rs. 72,749 to Rs. 67,807. In Shwebo District the area benefited by the Mu Canal rose from 9,427 to 12,645 acres and by minor works from 1,117 to 11,567 acres. The season was favourable. The large increase in

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the area under minor works is due to the inclusion of tracts not previously incorporated in the statistics. The revenue increased from Rs. 8,716 to Rs. 32,668. The area under irrigation in Kyauksè District increased from 136,178 to 142,362 acres and the revenue from Rs. 6·23 lakhs to Rs. 7·04 lakhs owing to the favourable nature of the season and the efficient working of the canals. In Meiktila District the area irrigated from the Meiktila lake fell from 32,474 to 24,492 acres, from the Nyaungyan-Minhla tank from 22,721 to 16,969 acres, and from minor irrigation works from 23,529 to 6,271 acres. The middle rains failed and those works which were incapable of holding up a supply failed entirely. Irrigation revenue fell from Rs. 1·79 lakh to Rs. 1·18 lakh; heavy remissions were granted on account of crop failures. In Yamèthin District the total area irrigated from the Kyauksè tank and from minor irrigation works fell from 25,286 to 22,999 acres and the revenue from Rs. 56,456 to Rs. 51,114 owing to the insufficient rains. In Minbu District the area irrigated from the Man Canal was 15,580 as compared with 15,086 acres, from the Salin Canals 23,148 as compared with 10,455 acres and from minor irrigation works 662 as compared with 1,129 acres. The increase in the Man area was due to the favourable nature of the season and the opening of a new distributary. The Salin Canals were in excellent working order throughout the season and were fortunate in having a plentiful supply of water. Some of the tanks did not fill owing to failure of rain in their catchment area. The total revenue credited to irrigation in the district increased from Rs. 1·19 lakh to Rs. 1·99 lakh. The aggregate maintenance charges for minor irrigation works in Upper Burma were Rs. 2·34 lakhs as against Rs. 2·39 lakhs in 1914-15.

The total area protected by embankments was 693,426 acres as against 697,436 acres in the previous year. Gross receipts amounted to Rs. 21·54 lakhs and working expenses to Rs. 3·97 lakhs, leaving net receipts of Rs. 17·57 lakhs as against Rs. 18·03 lakhs.

CHAPTER V.

REVENUE AND FINANCE.

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Provincial Settlement.

134. The receipts and expenditure of the Province other than those pertaining to local authorities are divided between the Imperial and Provincial Governments according to the terms of what is known as the Provincial Settlement. The existing Provincial Settlement was drawn up in 1907, and its terms were subsequently modified in 1911, with a view to converting large fixed assignments which the Province then received from Imperial revenues into shares of growing revenue. The modifications were summarised in the General Administration Report of Burma for the year 1911-12, while the Provincial Settlement of 1907 itself will be found fully described in the General Administration Report for the year 1907-08. An additional recurring assignment from Imperial to Provincial Revenues of Rs. 15·11 lakhs was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1915 in recognition of the fact that the Provincial Settlement has proved less favourable to the Province than was anticipated.

Gross Revenue and Expenditure.

135. The gross receipts of the Province for the year of report amounted to Rs. 11,42·23 lakhs as against Rs. 11,57·34 lakhs in the previous year, and the expenditure to Rs. 8,75·93 lakhs as against Rs. 9,52·62 lakhs, receipts thus showing a decrease of Rs. 15·11 lakhs and expenditure a decrease of Rs. 76·69 lakhs. Receipts classed as Imperial increased by Rs. 8·24 lakhs from Rs. 3,56·99 lakhs to Rs. 3,65·24 lakhs, and receipts classed as Provincial by Rs. 4·12 lakhs from Rs. 5,50·21 lakhs to Rs. 5,54·32 lakhs. Receipts of District Funds fell from Rs. 47·36 lakhs to Rs. 44·78 lakhs and receipts of Municipal Funds from.

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Rs. 1,04·00 lakhs to Rs. 1,01·54 lakhs. The decrease in expenditure was fairly general. Imperial expenditure decreased by Rs. 5·16 lakhs from Rs. 77·56 lakhs to Rs. 72·40 lakhs, and Provincial expenditure by Rs. 32·26 lakhs from Rs. 5,96·32 lakhs to Rs. 5,64·05 lakhs. Expenditure from District Funds increased from Rs. 44·26 lakhs to Rs. 53·12 lakhs and from Municipal Funds from Rs. 1,09·28 lakhs to Rs. 1,12·29 lakhs. The receipts and expenditure from other funds were Rs. 76·35 lakhs and Rs. 74·06 lakhs as compared with Rs. 98·78 lakhs and Rs. 1,25·20 lakhs in the previous year.

These figures include the transactions of the Rangoon and Moulmein Municipalities, the Rangoon Port Trust and the Rangoon Pilot Fund, though they do not bank with Government.

(a) *IMPERIAL REVENUE AND FINANCE.*

[*In this section are discussed sources of Revenue or Expenditure which are partly, as well as those which are wholly, Imperial.*]

Total Imperial figures: notable variations.

136. A gross increase of Rs. 16·67 lakhs in Imperial receipts occurred under seven heads of revenue, and a gross decrease of Rs. 8·42 lakhs under six heads, leaving a net increase of Rs. 8·24 lakhs for the year. The receipts under the head "Land Revenue" exceeded those of the former year by Rs. 6·50 lakhs as a result of the introduction of revised settlement rates in some districts and a general improvement in collections which diminished the amount of arrears outstanding at the close of the financial year. An increase of Rs. 2·76 lakhs under the head "Irrigation Major Works—Direct Receipts" was due to the collection of arrears due on account of previous years. Under the head "Transfers between Imperial and Provincial" there is an increase of Rs. 6·13 lakhs, principally due to the reduction of the contribution from Imperial Funds for the constitution of the new frontier district Putao and the occupation of Hpimaw. The heads of revenue under which the largest decreases of revenue occurred were "Salt" Rs. 2·65 lakhs, "Excise" Rs. 3·91 lakhs, and Customs Rs. 1·32 lakh, all of them caused by the depression in trade and restriction of imports which have resulted from the war. In expenditure a gross decrease of Rs. 6·38 lakhs under some heads was partly offset by a gross increase of Rs. 1·22 lakh under other heads, the net decrease being Rs. 5·16 lakhs. The principal decreases fell under the head "Irrigation Major Works" Rs. 2·98 lakhs, and "Capital Expenditure on Irrigation Works" Rs. 2·54 lakhs. The former was due to the reduction of expenditure on the Mandalay Canal consequent on the completion of the special repairs rendered necessary by flood damage in 1914, and the latter to a reduction in the expenditure on canals under construction.

Land Revenue.

Land revenue receipts.

137. The gross receipts under "Land Revenue" for the financial year ending the 31st March 1916 were Rs. 4,64·18 lakhs as against Rs. 4,46·07 lakhs in the previous year. Under the terms of the Provincial Settlement by which three-eighths of the receipts under this head are allotted to Imperial and five-eighths to Provincial Funds, Rs. 1,72·53 lakhs were credited to Imperial and Rs. 2,91·65 lakhs to Provincial Funds as against Rs. 1,66·03 lakhs and Rs. 2,80·04 lakhs respectively in 1914-15, thus shewing increases of Rs. 6·50 lakhs and Rs. 11·61 lakhs respectively. Expenditure under Land Revenue which is wholly debitable to Provincial Funds was Rs. 70·94 lakhs as compared with Rs. 68·15 lakhs in the previous year. Land Revenue proper of which the collections during the year amounted to Rs. 2,88·72 lakhs or nearly Rs. 5¾ lakhs more than in 1914-15 is dealt with in Chapter II of this Report. Some items of miscellaneous revenue are also included under the head "Land Revenue." The capitation-tax in Lower Burma yielded Rs. 56·69 lakhs as against Rs. 56·26 lakhs. The number of persons

assessed was 1,409,333 as against 1,393,251, an increase of some 16,000, and the demand rose by Rs. 43,954. As compared with the year immediately preceding the outbreak of war, the number of assessees was smaller by close on 13,000, while the demand was Rs. 29,959 larger. These figures, implying a decided alteration in proportions of single men and married couples in Lower Burma, appear to indicate a continued restriction, owing to the shortage of passenger steamers between Burma and India and other conditions produced by the war, of the temporary immigration of floating population, which consists mainly of single men. The unfavourable conditions of the agricultural season of 1914-15 put such difficulties in the way of collection of capitation-tax in the following financial year that the amount remitted was abnormally large. The amount collected as land-rate in lieu of capitation-tax was Rs. 92,941 or Rs. 3,927 more than in 1914-15. Henzada contributed Rs. 3,806 of this increase. There were no other variations of importance. Receipts from the *thathameda*-tax in Upper Burma increased by Rs. 25,657 to Rs. 39·48 lakhs, the number of households assessed rising by 12,584 to 875,535. The demand was higher by Rs. 41,612. Speaking generally conditions were similar to those of the previous year, and there was again comparatively little movement of population to Lower Burma. The amount remitted was Rs. 71,308 as compared with Rs. 57,817 in the previous year. The destruction by fire of a large part of Pakôkku Town necessitated considerable remissions. In Mandalay a decrease in the number of households assessed and an increase in the amount remitted were ascribed to the prevalence of plague and cholera. There was a decrease in the amount collected in the Ruby Mines District where the state of the ruby market again rendered some reduction of rates necessary. A decrease in Meiktila District was caused by the removal of a large number of former assessees owing to the completion of the construction of the Southern Shan States Railway. Receipts under the head of fishery revenue decreased from Rs. 34·96 lakhs to Rs. 30·47 lakhs or by Rs. 4·49 lakhs. Although the demand for 1914-15 had been unprecedentedly high, following two successful seasons, the year itself had been unprofitable for the fishermen and had involved a good deal of loss, especially in Lower Burma, on account of the failure of markets. This seriously discouraged bidding at the auction sales of the leases for the year of report, and accounted for the bulk of the decline in the demand; receipts from net licenses were also smaller. Remissions were heavier, but there was less difficulty in the collection of lease rents. Collections under the head "Miscellaneous Land Revenue" increased by nearly ten lakhs of rupees from Rs. 36·59 lakhs to Rs. 46·57 lakhs. The enhancement was almost entirely in respect of minerals, petroleum and rubies accounting for an increase of eight and three-quarter lakhs and other minerals for an increase of one lakh. Rents of town lands not credited to local funds increased by Rs. 30,902 to Rs 2·63 lakhs owing to the issue of new leases and the enhancement of rents. The receipts from fees, rents and royalties on minerals other than petroleum, rubies, jade or amber increased by Rs. 99,634 or over 69 per cent. to Rs. 2·43 lakhs on account of the increased production and rise in price of wolfram. Of the large increase of Rs. 6·73 lakhs in petroleum royalties in Magwe District Rs. 1·70 lakh was collected but not brought to account in the previous year. In the Ruby Mines District an increase of Rs. 42,980 or 114 per cent. in royalties on precious stones indicated a partial recovery in the trade in rubies from the state of collapse which followed the outbreak of war.

Canal (Navigation and Irrigation) Revenue.

138. The concluding paragraphs of Chapter IV deal with the canals and irrigation works of the Province and the revenue obtained from them during the year of report. Receipts and expenditure on Major Irrigation Works—including the works now in progress on the Twante Canal which is only used for navigation—are wholly Imperial. Those of the other works referred to in the paragraphs above mentioned are wholly Provincial.

Sources of Imperial Revenue other than the Land.

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Customs.

139. Both receipts and expenditure under the head "Customs" are classified as Imperial. Receipts under this head do not include the import duty on salt which is classified under the head "Salt." The total receipts for the year under the head Customs fell by Rs. 1·32 lakh from Rs. 1,20·78 lakhs to Rs. 1,19·47 lakhs. The receipts from imports increased by Rs. 3·76 lakhs, from Rs. 62·88 lakhs to Rs. 66·64 lakhs, but this gain was more than counterbalanced by a fall of Rs. 5·42 lakhs in the receipts from exports, from Rs. 57·01 lakhs to Rs. 51·59 lakhs. The causes of these variations have been discussed in the paragraphs dealing with trade. The total expenditure on Customs fell slightly from Rs. 6·36 lakhs to Rs. 6·31 lakhs, leaving a net revenue of Rs. 1,13·16 lakhs as against a net revenue of Rs. 1,14·42 lakhs the previous year.

Opium.

140. There is no expenditure under the Imperial Accounts head "Opium" in Burma, and receipts include only the payments made by the Government of Burma to the Government of India for the purchase of opium. All other receipts and expenditure in connection with opium are included under the head "Excise" which will be discussed later. Owing to an increase in the quantity of opium issued to licensed shops a larger quantity was purchased by the Government of Burma, and the receipts under the head "Opium" increased in consequence from Rs. 3·50 lakhs to Rs. 3·66 lakhs.

Salt—General.

141. No change in the law or rate of duty took place during the year. In accordance with orders received from the Government of India duty on salt of local manufacture was levied at the rate in force on the date on which the salt was actually delivered to traders. The cost of the salt establishment which in 1914 was Rs. 47,924 was reduced to Rs. 46,066 in 1915 on account of reduction of establishment in one district. The proportion of cost to revenue in the seven districts under the system of direct taxation on issues fell from 12·86 to 9·81 per cent., principally as a consequence of the increase in the revenue collected.

Supplies of Salt.

142. The output of salt in the seven districts under the system of direct taxation was 718,405 maunds as compared with 542,463 maunds in 1914; in the other districts under the system of composition duty the estimated output for the year was 57,996 maunds as against an estimated output of 43,411 maunds in 1914. The number of licenses in the districts under direct taxation increased from 232 to 252, there being an increase in all districts except Hanthawaddy and Amherst in each of which the numbers of licenses fell by one, though in each district the output largely increased. In the districts where the system of composition duty is in force the number of licenses rose from 726 to 811, and the number of cauldrons from 687 to 986 while pots fell from 146 to 131. Of the eleven districts five shewed increases, three decreases, and three remained stationary. The decreases were small. The total number of licenses of both classes thus increased from 958 to 1,063, the increase being entirely due to the great rise in the price of salt during the year. The quantity of Burma-made salt issued from bond during the year rose from 492,243 to 628,313 maunds, and, including the output in the districts under the system of composition duty, the proportion of Burma-made salt to the total amount of salt consumed increased from 21.8 to 31·8 per cent. The duty levied on Burma-made salt was Rs. 4·91 lakhs as against Rs. 3·93 lakhs in the previous year. Imports of foreign salt decreased by 895,944 maunds or 38 per cent. from 2,358,468 maunds in 1914, which was a record, to 1,462,524 in 1915. The amount of duty realised fell from Rs. 19·18 lakhs to Rs. 14·70 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 4·48 lakhs. Imports from the United Kingdom fell from 281,636 to 239,126 maunds; imports from Germany entirely ceased. There was a remarkable increase, from 8,979 to 265,574 maunds in the quantity imported from Indian ports. Of this total, however, only 44,000 maunds was Indian (Madras) salt, the remainder being imported. Imports from the Turkish Red Sea port Salif which amounted to 498,938 maunds in 1914 entirely ceased. The principal source of fresh supplies was Spain the imports from

which increased from 343,136 to 550,079 maunds. Towards the end of the year the falling off of imports caused the stocks of salt to be greatly reduced, and to prevent their complete exhaustion, steps were taken to restrict deliveries from bond. The available stocks became insufficient to meet the demand which was artificially inflated through uneasiness in the market, and the shortage coupled with the high price led to large importations of foreign duty-paid salt from Calcutta. A quantity of Madras country salt was also imported, but owing to the coarseness of the grain was unable to find a market. The quantity in bond at the end of the year was 302,955 maunds as compared with 629,380 maunds at the end of 1914. The imports of salted fish fell from 169,003 maunds by 20 per cent. to 135,334 maunds, the lowest figure on record. Nearly the whole decrease occurred in the wet variety and was due to the increase in freights and to a better demand in the Straits Settlements, where higher prices were obtainable. The total revenue derived from salt and salt fish during the year was Rs. 20·10 lakhs as compared with Rs. 23·72 lakhs in 1914.

Excise—General.

143. The gross revenue derived from excise fell from Rs. 92·39 lakhs to Rs. 84·72 lakhs and the net revenue from Rs. 77·18 lakhs to Rs. 69·39 lakhs. The losses of the liquor trade in the previous year and the anticipation that trade would continue to be bad caused a heavy fall in the prices obtained for license fees at the auctions in April. Revenue from liquor fell by Rs. 7·68 lakhs or 14·3 per cent. from Rs. 53·78 lakhs to Rs. 46·10 lakhs. The gross revenue derived from opium increased slightly from Rs. 36·93 lakhs to Rs. 37·53 lakhs, a decrease in the receipts from license fees being more than balanced by an increase in the revenue derived from duty. The total expenditure on the conjoint Excise and Salt establishments rose by less than 1 per cent. from Rs. 15·21 lakhs to Rs. 15·33 lakhs. A decreased expenditure under contingencies was due partly to the exercise of greater economy in making rewards and partly to the decrease in cocaine smuggling leading to a decrease in the amount of rewards paid for the seizure of cocaine.

Excise—Opium.

144. The increase, Rs. 70,730, in the amount of revenue derived from duty paid on opium is nearly balanced by a decline of Rs. 59,482 in the sale proceeds of confiscated opium, from Rs. 1·68 lakh to Rs. 1·09 lakh. The net profits of licensees rose by Rs. 5,778 to Rs. 3·21 lakhs while license fees decreased by Rs. 10,158 to Rs. 93,590. The total quantity of opium issued to shops was very little less than in the previous year, 43,347 as against 43,391 seers. Excise opium increased by 918 seers and confiscated opium decreased by 962 seers. The largest increase in consumption took place in Tavoy District and was due to the influx of Chinese to work in the wolfram mines. The exceptionally high price of opium in Yünnan caused large increases in the quantities sold at the licensed shops in the northern districts of Katha, Bhamo and Myitkyina. Considerable reductions in consumption occurred in the districts of Pegu, Thatôn, Amherst, Thayetmyo, Bassein, Ruby Mines and Upper Chindwin, for which the causes ascribed were reduction of allowances, decline of trade and scarcity of money. The total amount of contraband opium seized at the four principal seaports, Rangoon, Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein, was less than half the quantity of the preceding year, 63,107 as against 128,422 tolas. The irregularity of shipping connections between Burma and India tended to restrict smuggling. Smuggling on an extensive scale by means of parcels sent through the post office came to light and measures for its more effective prevention were under discussion. The price of opium in Yünnan was high enough to attract thither the whole surplus of the crop grown in the Shan States and little opium from that source reached Burma. The hawking for resale of opium purchased from licensed shops has considerably diminished. The numbers of arrests and convictions for offences against the Opium Act were 2,925 and 2,411 respectively as compared with 2,887 and 2,398 in 1914-15. The percentage of convictions to arrests was 82·43 as against 83·06. The total quantity of opium seized fell by 37·6 per cent. from 2,370 seers to 1,478. As a consequence of the high price of hill opium the

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number of persons convicted of illicit poppy cultivation in Myitkyina District increased from 2 in the previous year to 38.

Excise—Liquors.

145. The quantity of spirits imported into Burma increased by 26,609 gallons to 247,688 gallons, a figure which however still falls considerably short of the 290,200 gallons imported in 1913-14. Whisky retained its place at the head of the list of this class of imports, though the quantity imported fell to 82,000 gallons, closely followed by brandy, the imports of which rose by 11,181 gallons to 81,825 gallons. Imports of ale, beer and porter fell by a further 11,797 gallons to 719,821 gallons. The value of potable spirits imported increased by Rs. 1·37 lakh and that of other potable liquors by Rs 1·26 lakh. The total increase was Rs. 2·62 lakhs over the figures of the previous year, which were Rs. 18·78 lakhs less than those of 1913-14. The number of wholesale licenses for the sale of foreign liquor fell by 1 to 88, and the number of retail licenses rose slightly by 5 to 146. License fees for the sale of imported liquor fell by Rs. 2·15 lakhs from Rs. 10·38 lakhs to Rs. 8·23 lakhs. The issues of fermented malt liquor from the only brewery in the Province were 150,986 gallons as compared with 164,676 gallons in 1914-15 and the duty realised fell from Rs. 30,887 to Rs. 30,222. The duty on beer was raised on 1st March 1916 from 3 to $4\frac{1}{2}$ annas per gallon so that the decrease in duty was much smaller than the decrease in issues. Foreign spirit was manufactured during the year in distilleries in Mandalay, Toungoo and Moulmein. Clearances from bond decreased from 18,602 to 12,003 gallons and despite an increase of the rate of duty from Rs. 9-6-0 to Rs. 11-4-0 per gallon from 1st March 1916, the total realised fell from Rs. 2·15 lakhs to Rs. 1·54 lakh. The number of wholesale licenses for the sale of locally manufactured foreign spirit fell from 5 to 4 and of retail licenses from 11 to 5. License fees fell by nearly a half to Rs. 6,811. The contract distillery system was extended to the Myaungmya District where two shops were sanctioned. New contracts for the Arakan and Tenasserim Divisions were entered into with revised rates of duty. The total issues were 72,193 as against 82,193 gallons the previous year, but owing to the revision of contracts the fall in duty realised was not proportionate, being only from Rs. 3·21 lakhs to Rs. 3·18 lakhs. The number of licenses increased by two to 144, but license fees decreased from Rs. 3·28 lakhs to Rs. 2·49 lakhs; receipts in outstill areas declined from Rs. 27,366 to Rs. 18,656. The revenue from fees for licenses to sell *tari* fell by Rs. 1·56 lakh to Rs. 7·08 lakhs owing to scarcity of money due to the war. The fall was less marked in Upper than in Lower Burma. The number of licenses for the sale of country fermented liquors other than *tari* fell by 6 to 370 and the aggregate of license fees by Rs. 2·31 lakhs to Rs. 22·88 lakhs. Thatôn, Amherst, Myitkyina, Ruby Mines and Shwebo Districts showed increases. At the end of 1914-15 a sum of Rs. 94,355 was shown as a realizable balance of unpaid Excise revenue. Of this only Rs. 2,081 was collected and the balance Rs. 92,274 remitted. This, added to the sum of Rs. 13,354 remitted during the year, raised the amount written off as irrecoverable to the high figure of Rs. 1,05,628. The Education Department issued the syllabus on temperance published by the English Board of Education and an alternative syllabus drawn up by the Lord Bishop of Rangoon, and invited the attention of the Managers of all European and Anglo-Vernacular Schools to the orders of the Government of India that lessons on temperance should be imparted. All schools, with few exceptions, gave attention to the subject. Some arranged for special instruction, some treated it as part of religious or moral instruction and some connected it with lessons on hygiene.

For offences relating to country spirit there were 2,219 arrests and 1,738 convictions as compared with 1,453 arrests and 1,178 convictions in 1914-15. Convictions in respect to country fermented liquor of all classes rose from 2,963 to 3,520, the increase being under all heads except that of the unlicensed sale of other country fermented liquor. In Rangoon a large still was seized in a three-storeyed house in the centre of the town, rented by a Chinese confederacy and entirely devoted to the manufacture of spirit. The number of cases reported by

magistrates in which intoxicating liquor was the cause of or contributory to crime fell from 281 to 231.

Ganja, cocaine and morphia.

146. The quantity of ganja seized during the year was 1,586 seers as against 1,202 seers the previous year. Imports by sea probably diminished on account of the decrease of shipping facilities, and most of the diminished quantity of the drug seized in Rangoon was reported to be grown in the Province. An increase in the quantity seized took place in Amherst, most of it being imported from Siam. The number of persons arrested and convicted for offences in connection with ganja decreased.

Cocaine licenses fell by 3 to 37. Convictions fell by 417 to 902, of which 41 were for unlicensed sale and the rest for illicit possession. The amount seized fell by a hundredweight to 23 pounds avoirdupois. The drug is now difficult to procure owing to the stoppage of German supplies, and what is procurable is said to be adulterated with antipyrin, antifebrin, quinine and other drugs of similar appearance. Licenses for the sale of morphia increased by one to 42. Convictions increased by 77 to 308 as a result principally of increases in Rangoon and Insein. Seizures increased by four pounds to nearly 20 pounds avoirdupois. There were two convictions for illicit possession in Thatôn and one for unlicensed sale in Thayetmyo where there were none last year, but it does not appear that the use of the drug has spread.

Stamps.

147. The gross receipts under the Stamp Act and the Court Fees Act together increased by nearly Rs. 87,000 from Rs. 34·28 lakhs to Rs. 35·14 lakhs, thus showing a recovery of not quite half the amount by which the total of 1914-15, the first year of the war, fell below that of the preceding year. Sales under each Act contributed equally to the total increase. The total charges fell from Rs. 1·27 lakh to Rs. 1·04 lakh owing to smaller refunds. The price of paddy in the early part of the harvest season was low and, in spite of a generally favourable season, cultivators found difficulty in repaying loans. Receipts from the sale of Court-fee stamps were thus larger than those of the previous year in practically all the important rice-growing districts, particularly in Lower Burma. The total receipts in Rangoon which had risen considerably in the first year of the war, fell by over a lakh to a figure lower than those of the two years preceding the war. The net result was an increase of Rs. 44,230—from Rs. 20·14 lakhs to Rs. 20·58 lakhs—in the total for the whole Province. The receipts from the sale of impressed non-judicial stamps and impressed non-judicial labels taken together (since these are generally used for similar classes of transactions) showed an increase of Rs. 73,471 above the abnormally low figures, Rs. 10·52 lakhs, of the previous year. There was some recovery of business from the depressed conditions of the first year of the war; and the effect of this recovery on the stamp revenue was assisted by the fact that the experience of that year induced greater caution on the part of money-lenders, with a disinclination to advance money on oral contracts and simple promissory notes, and a marked preference for documentary mortgages. The difficulties of debtor cultivators also led to the surrender of land to creditors by deed of sale. All the important districts of Lower Burma, except Thatôn and Amherst, contributed to the increase. In Upper Burma the conditions were very similar to those of the previous year, and continued stagnation of business was reported from many districts. In Rangoon the value of foreign bill stamps sold increased from Rs. 25,232 to Rs. 30,004 and of share transfer stamps from Rs. 6,994 to Rs. 11,003, but the figures were still well below those of the years preceding the outbreak of war. The use of *hundis* or inland bills of exchange continued to decline, receipts under this head falling from Rs. 26,987 to Rs. 22,444. Fewer forms also were stamped with one and two-anna impressions for cheques, receipts, agreements and broker's notes. There were no large sums paid as duty and penalty or as composition duty, such as had swollen the total of "Miscellaneous Receipts" in the two preceding years. The total number of stamp vendors was increased by 60 to 2,509. The amount of discount allowed to vendors increased from Rs. 44,155 to Rs. 46,792, the bulk of the increase being in respect of the sale of non-judicial stamps. The number of cases of unstamped or insufficiently stamped

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documents dealt with by courts increased by 20 to 949, an increase roughly proportionate to the increase in the sale of non-judicial stamps. The number of cases dealt with by Collectors on impoundment or adjudication was 360 as compared with 455 in 1914-15, a decrease of 20 per cent. There were no cases in which very large sums were recovered as duty or penalty on adjudication or impoundment. One or two such cases have usually produced the bulk of the total recoveries under this head, and the fall in this total from Rs. 41,320 to Rs. 5,991 must be regarded as accidental. The number of persons brought to trial for offences against the Stamp Act during the year was 44 the same as in 1914-15. The cases against 6 of these were unfinished at the close of the year, 34 were convicted and 4 acquitted. The number of reports made to Collectors regarding the valuation of estates in connection with applications for probate or letters-of-administration was 409 as compared with 447 in 1914-15, and the number of cases in which enquiries were held fell from 377 to 346. The total of deficit court-fees required, which in 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 4,017, was in 1915-16 only Rs. 3,068.

Charges on account of discount and establishment for the sale of stamps increased from Rs. 57,391 to Rs. 61,259. The cost of stamps supplied from the central depôt was Rs. 6,606 as against Rs. 6,847. The total net receipts under both acts were Rs. 34·11 lakhs as compared with Rs. 33·01 lakhs in 1914-15.

Assessed taxes.

148. Receipts and expenditure under the head "Assessed taxes" are credited and debited respectively in equal shares to Imperial and Provincial Funds. The Income-tax Act is applicable to the whole of Burma, but was completely operative only in Lower Burma and in Mandalay Town. It was not extended to new areas during the year. The method of assessment and the agencies employed remained unchanged. No changes were made in the Act and the Rules. Slight changes were made in two Directions in accordance with orders of the Government of India and one form was amended. The net yield of this tax for the year was Rs. 24·52 lakhs as compared with Rs. 25·08 lakhs in 1914-15, a decrease of over half a lakh of rupees. The net collections of income-tax in Rangoon were Rs. 14·52 lakhs; the figures for the previous year were Rs. 14·93 lakhs.

The number of assessees paying income-tax on "salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by Government" increased from 5,566 to 5,865 or by 5·4 per cent. while the amount of tax collected from them fell from Rs. 4,03,210 to Rs. 4,03,051. Under the sub-head "Salaries" there was an increase of 279 to 3,059 in the number of assessees with incomes of less than Rs. 2,000 per annum and a decrease of 5 in the number with incomes over that sum. The total collections of the tax on "interest on securities" was Rs. 33,063 as compared with Rs. 31,766 in 1914-15. Securities of the Government of India held in the Province increased by 24¾ lakhs, while securities of local authorities fell by 8¼ lakhs owing to the part repayment of the Rangoon municipal loans of 1887 and 1893. The number of assessees to the tax under the head "salaries, pensions and gratuities paid by local authorities" and the total amount of tax paid by them were practically the same as in the previous year, the figures being, 1914-15 assessees 1,054, tax Rs. 49,248, 1915-16 assessees 1,046, tax Rs. 48,613. The number of persons who paid income-tax on "salaries, etc. paid by companies and other private employers," was 5,584 as against 5,868 in the preceding year, a decrease of 4 per cent., while on the other hand the total amount paid by them increased from Rs. 3,68,063 to Rs. 3,83,776 or by 4 per cent. to the highest total yet recorded. The decrease of 159 assessees in Rangoon Town was partly due to the fact that many joined the army and their places either were not filled or were filled by persons not assessable to the tax. The decrease in Tavoy from 164 to 56 assessees arose from the situation in the wolfram industry after the outbreak of war in 1914 when many companies ceased to work altogether and others reduced their staffs. The recrudescence of the industry began late in 1915 and had not time to take effect before the close of the income-tax year. The tax was collected by employers in the case of 69·8 per cent. of the assessees. The number of companies assessed to income-tax fell from 75 to 64 and the amount collected from Rs. 6,89,526 to Rs. 6,38,612 or 7·4 per cent. As a rule companies declared smaller profits than in the previous

year owing to the effects of the war. The Burma Railways Company, Limited, paid Rs. 45,724 as against Rs. 58,582. In Rangoon where 98·5 per cent. of the yield under this head is paid 162 companies were brought on the register. Of these 51 were exempted on production of certificates of payment of the tax in India, 52 declared that they had no assessable income and 7 objected successfully to assessment. The number of assessees under the head "Tax on other sources of income" fell from 14,796 to 14,124 or 4·5 per cent. and the amount collected from Rs. 9,66,135 to Rs. 9,14,335 or 5·4 per cent. In Rangoon where the number assessed fell by 26 only, the amount collected fell by Rs. 44,864 or 10·2 per cent. Excluding Rangoon Town the number of assessees fell by 646 (5·7 per cent.) though the amount collected was only Rs. 6,936 (1·3 per cent.) less than in 1914-15. Revision of assessments by Collectors and Commissioners reduced the original demand of Rs. 11,79,626 payable by 10,381 assessees to Rs. 9,45,838 payable by 14,720 assessees or 20 and 10 per cent. respectively. Expenditure increased from Rs. 51,147 to Rs. 53,425 and amounted to 2·18 per cent. of the total amount collected. Refunds fell by Rs. 9,889 to Rs. 26,157 of which Rangoon Town was responsible for Rs. 20,078. The outstanding balance at the close of the year was Rs. 20,216 as compared with Rs. 64,013 in 1914-15. The tax was collected without difficulty. In Rangoon Town alone coercive processes issued to any extent and the number fell from 380 to 143.

(b) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN IMPERIAL.

Provincial Receipts and Expenditure.

Provincial receipts.

149. The Provincial receipts amounted to Rs. 5,54·32 lakhs as against Rs. 5,50·21 lakhs in 1914-15. The net increase of Rs. 4·12 lakhs resulted from a gross increase of Rs. 15·67 lakhs under some heads of revenue, partly counterbalanced by a gross decrease of Rs. 11·55 lakhs under other heads. The net increase is the result of a partial recovery from the effects of the war. Receipts under the head "Land Revenue" increased by Rs. 11·60 lakhs from Rs. 2,80·04 lakhs to Rs. 2,91·65 lakhs, under "Minor Works and Navigation" by Rs. 1·21 lakh from Rs. 13·03 lakhs to Rs. 14·24 lakhs, under "Miscellaneous" by Rs. 96,280 from Rs. 74,187 to Rs. 1·70 lakh, under "Stamps" by Rs. 43,426 from Rs. 17·14 lakhs to Rs. 17·58 lakhs, under "Interest" by Rs. 40,438 from Rs. 1·31 lakh to Rs. 1·71 lakh, and under "Civil Works—Public Works" by Rs. 30,772 from Rs. 3·19 lakhs to Rs. 3·50 lakhs. On the other hand, receipts under "Excise" fell by Rs. 3·91 lakhs from Rs. 44·47 lakhs to Rs. 40·56 lakhs and there was a decrease of Rs. 6·13 lakhs, from Rs. 51·33 lakhs to Rs. 45·20 lakhs, in the amount transferred from Imperial to Provincial Funds. While receipts under "Land Revenue" more than recovered the fall of 1914-15 and returned to the level of 1913-14 the "Forest" receipts which in 1914-15 were below the level of the previous year by Rs. 18·64 lakhs, in 1915-16 fell by a further Rs. 8,477. Other heads under which substantial decreases were recorded were "Income Tax" Rs. 35,357 from Rs. 12·73 lakhs to Rs. 12·38 lakhs, "Law and Justice—Courts of Law" Rs. 17,912 from Rs. 6·51 lakhs to Rs. 6·33 lakhs, "Police" Rs. 64,916 from Rs. 6·45 lakhs to Rs. 5·80 lakhs, "Ports and Pilotage" Rs. 22,694 from Rs. 4·22 lakhs to Rs. 3·99 lakhs. Taking into consideration the decrease in the amount of the contribution from Imperial Funds by Rs. 6·13 lakhs the real improvement in Provincial receipts over the figures of the previous year amounted to Rs. 10·24 lakhs.

Provincial expenditure.

150. The Provincial expenditure for the year fell from Rs. 5,96·32 lakhs to Rs. 5,64·05 lakhs. There was a gross decrease of Rs. 41·62 lakhs under certain heads and a gross increase of Rs. 9·36 lakhs under other heads, the net decrease being Rs. 32·26 lakhs. A substantial decrease was effected under the head "Political" of Rs. 6·37 lakhs, from Rs. 18·26 lakhs to Rs. 11·89 lakhs, and was due to the curtailment of expenditure on the Putao District and the North-Eastern Frontier. A reduction by Rs. 5·26 lakhs, from Rs. 32·15 lakhs to Rs. 26·89 lakhs,

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under the head "Medical" was caused by the reduction of contributions for sanitary purposes, the reduction of expenditure on plague, and the reduction of salaries paid owing to the reversion of commissioned officers of the Indian Medical Service to Military duty. As is usual however in times of financial stringency the largest economy was effected by retrenchment of expenditure on public works. The expenditure under the head "Civil Works—Public Works" fell from Rs. 1,10·18 lakhs to Rs. 82·78 lakhs, a reduction of Rs. 27·40 lakhs. Under "Education" a saving of Rs. 1·22 lakh was effected, the expenditure being reduced from Rs. 31·67 lakhs to Rs. 30·45 lakhs, principally by curtailing the amounts of Grants-in-Aid. Expenditure under the head "Land Revenue" increased by Rs. 2·79 lakhs from Rs. 68·15 lakhs to Rs. 70·94 lakhs, and under "Forests" by Rs. 2·06 lakhs from Rs. 46·80 lakhs to Rs. 48·86 lakhs. The only other head under which expenditure increased by more than a lakh of rupees was "Police" the expenditure on which was Rs. 1,37·06 lakhs as against Rs. 1,34·75 lakhs in 1914-15, an increase of Rs. 2·31 lakhs.

Forests.

151. The Forest Department Report deals with the year ending on the 30th June 1916 and the figures of revenue and expenditure given in it therefore differ from those compiled in the Finance Department. The gross revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 96·64 lakhs, as against Rs. 90·47 lakhs in the previous year, an increase of Rs. 6·17 lakhs. Revenue from timber extracted by Government agency increased by Rs. 1·89 lakh to Rs. 14·57 lakhs. The revenue derived from produce extracted by consumers increased from Rs. 70·90 lakhs in 1914-15 to Rs. 75·15 lakhs. The receipts from drift and confiscated timber were higher by Rs. 32,240 at Rs. 2·01 lakhs while the duty on foreign timber and other produced realised only Rs. 1·16 lakh or Rs. 1·02 lakh less than in the previous year. The import duty levied at Moulmein on timber imported from Siam, Karenni and the Shan States is technically payable on the arrival of the timber at the revenue station, but the timber is exempt from seizure in default of payment for two years. In view of the prevailing bad market importers have refrained from passing imported timber. The duty is also levied *ad valorem* and the fall in the value of timber has had a further effect. The total expenditure of the year was Rs. 47·62 lakhs as compared with Rs. 48·08 lakhs in 1914-15. The expenditure on the extension and constitution of forests increased by Rs. 19,994 while on "improvements" and "extraction of timber by Government agency" the amount spent decreased by Rs. 1·80 lakh and Rs. 32,485 respectively. The expenditure on establishment increased by Rs. 1·46 lakh to Rs. 25·87 lakhs. The estimated value of timber and produce at the sale depôts of the Department increased during the year by Rs. 11·56 lakhs.

Local Funds.

District Cess Funds.

152. A District Cess Fund is maintained by every district in Lower Burma. No change occurred in the number of such funds during the year. The aggregate receipts of all the funds were Rs. 35·44 lakhs as compared with Rs. 34·83 lakhs in 1914-15 an increase of Rs. ·61 lakh. This was mainly due to an increase of Rs. 1·89 lakh under the head Provincial Rates, partly counterbalanced by decreases of Rs. ·42 lakh under Police, Rs. ·46 lakh under Education and Rs. ·35 lakh under Miscellaneous. The increase under Provincial Rates resulted from an improvement of ordinary Land Revenue. The increases occurred mainly in the Hanthawaddy, Insein, Pegu, Bassein, Ma-ubin, Amherst, Toungoo and Thatôn Districts. Smaller receipts from slaughter-house license fees and sale proceeds of unclaimed cattle chiefly accounted for the fall under Police. The decrease under Education was due to smaller contributions made during the year from Provincial Funds towards expenditure on local education. Smaller receipts from bazaar stall rents and from the sale of ferry licenses mainly accounted for the decreases under the heads Miscellaneous and Civil Works—In charge of Civil Officers, respectively. The aggregate expenditure of the funds rose from Rs. 36·28 lakhs in 1914-15 to Rs. 39·04 lakhs. This increase of Rs. 2·75 lakhs occurred

under Provincial Rates, Rs. ·39 lakh, Medical, Rs. ·33 lakh, Agriculture, Rs. ·10 lakh, Minor Works—In charge of Public Works Officers, Rs. ·17 lakh, and Civil Works—In charge of Public Works Officers, Rs. 2·50 lakhs, partly counterbalanced by decreases under Education, Rs. ·36 lakh, and Civil Works—In charge of Civil Officers, Rs. ·27 lakh. Larger outlay on commission for the collection of Cess in the Hanthawaddy, Insein, Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Bassein, Ma-ubin, Pyapôn and Amherst Districts mainly contributed to the increase in expenditure under Provincial Rates. The increase under the head Medical was the result of larger grants to hospitals and dispensaries, partly counterbalanced by smaller expenditure on European medicines and instruments, travelling allowance of vaccinators and assistants, and plague charges. Larger expenditure in the Bassein, Myaungmya and Toungoo Districts mainly accounted for the increase under Minor Works and Navigation. The increase in expenditure under the head Civil Works—In charge of Public Works Officers, occurred in all districts except Pegu, Pyapôn, Toungoo, Thatôn and Tavoy. The decrease under the head Education was due to the fact that no grant was paid towards the building of Anglo-Vernacular Secondary Schools during the year as against a grant of Rs. ·38 lakh in Pyapôn in 1914-15, and also to smaller expenditure on the maintenance and payment of fixed grants to Vernacular Primary Schools. The decrease under the head Civil Works—In charge of Civil Officers, was due mainly to smaller expenditure on Miscellaneous Public Improvements and on the payment for land taken up for public purposes. Only one Fund, the Ma-ubin District Cess Fund, temporaily overdrew the balance at its credit in the months of December 1915 and January and February 1916. All funds were solvent on 31st March 1916. The aggregate closing balance of all the funds on 31st March 1916 was Rs. 25·52 lakhs as compared with Rs. 29·11 lakhs on the 31st March 1915.

District Funds.

153. Each district in Upper Burma maintans a District Fund. These funds are not endowed as in Lower Burma with a Cess on land revenue but derive their income from various sources such as bazaar rents, slaughter-house licenses, ferries and contributions from Provincial Funds. The aggregate receipts during 1915-16 of all these funds were Rs. 9·34 lakhs a sum which compares with Rs. 12·53 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease occurred under the heads Police Rs. ·33 lakh, Miscellaneous, Rs. ·28 lakh, and Civil Works—In charge of Civil Officers, Rs. 3·22 lakhs. This last item is due to the fact that in 1914-15 a contribution of Rs. 4·41 lakhs was paid from Provincial Funds to the District Funds for expenditure on roads in 1915-16. This also accounts for the increase of Rs. 5·40 lakhs in expenditure under the head Civil Works—In charge of Public Works Officers. An increase of Rs. ·71 lakh in the receipts under the head Agriculture was due to contributions made from Provincial Funds on account of Veterinary charges. The same contributions account for the increase in expenditure under Agriculture. The aggregate expenditure of the District Funds was Rs. 14·08 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·98 lakhs in 1914-15. This increase of Rs. 6·10 lakhs was chiefly under the heads Agriculture and Civil Works—In charge of Public Works Officers and has been explained above. All funds were solvent on 31st March 1916. The aggregate closing balance of all the funds on 31st March 1916 was Rs. 5·18 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·93 lakhs a year previously.

Other Funds.

154. Other local funds consist of the Cantonment, Town, Port, Pilot, Rangoon Police Reward, Steam-boiler Inspection and Educational Syndicate Funds. The number of Cantonment Funds was seven as in the previous year. Their aggregate opening balance was Rs. 46,631 and the aggregate closing balance on 31st March 1916 Rs. 58,078. The total receipts excluding debt accounts and Government loans amounted to Rs. 1·95 lakh and the total expenditure to Rs. 1·84 lakh. The corresponding figures for 1914-15 were Rs. 1·80 lakh and Rs. 2·79 lakhs respectively so that there was an increase of Rs. 14,890 in receipts and a decrease of Rs. 95,128 in expenditure during the year of report. The increase in receipts was chiefly due to Grants-in-aid which amount to Rs. 32,358 as against Rs. 14,794. The decrease in expenditure took place in Rangoon and Mandalay. In Rangoon receipts fell from Rs. 87,628 to Rs. 84,781 and expenditure from

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Rs. 89,965 to Rs. 74,716. The expenditure figures for 1914-15 however excluded Rs. 50,000 as instalment of repayment of a loan. In Mandalay receipts increased from Rs. 56,928 to Rs. 58,438 as the result of an increase in the grant received from the Military Department and expenditure fell from Rs. 91,125 to Rs. 62,509 in consequence of less money being spent on public works. The receipts and expenditure of the Meiktila Cantonment Fund were Rs. 6,560 and Rs. 6,300 as against Rs. 6,879 and Rs. 5,939 in 1914-15. In Shwebo receipts and expenditure were in 1914-15 Rs. 4,077 and Rs. 5,203 and in 1915-16 Rs. 5,945 and Rs. 6,077. The income of the Thayetmyo Cantonment Fund fell from Rs. 7,794 to Rs. 6,559 and the expenditure rose from Rs. 6,233 to Rs. 7,479. In Maymyo owing to an increase in the Grant-in-aid from Rs. 700 to Rs. 16,654 the income of the Fund increased by Rs. 15,689 to Rs. 23,313 and the expenditure was Rs. 17,090 as compared with Rs. 18,087 in 1914-15. In Bhamo receipts and expenditure were Rs. 9,347 and Rs. 9,197 respectively as compared with Rs. 9,122 and Rs. 9,358. Only the Rangoon and Mandalay Cantonment Funds were self-supporting: the others were only able to show any closing balance through the receipt of Grants-in-aid from Government.

The number of Town Funds was 19 as in the previous year. The aggregate income of these funds decreased by Rs. ·86 lakh to Rs. 8·39 lakhs and their aggregate expenditure by Rs. ·16 lakh to Rs. 9·21 lakhs. The decrease in income was principally due to the reduction or absence of contributions from the Local Government. In six towns there was an aggregate decrease of expenditure by Rs. 1·30 lakh and in seven others an aggregate increase of Rs. 1·25 lakh to which the principal contributors were Yenangyaung and Maymyo. In 13 towns the expenditure of the year exceeded the income. The aggregate closing balances which at the end of 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 4·31 lakhs were on 31st March 1916 reduced to Rs. 3·49 lakhs. In six towns there were large closing balances accumulated in order to pay for expensive improvements such as water-supply, drainage and roads. The funds appeared solvent.

Excluding the Rangoon Port Trust there were six Port Funds. The total receipts and expenditure were Rs. 4·03 lakhs and Rs. 4·24 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·23 lakhs and Rs. 4·83 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The decrease in receipts in the case of Tavoy was accounted for by the fact that the previous year's receipts were swollen by a loan from the Local Government. Expenditure exceeded receipts in the Port Funds of Akyab, Mergui, Tavoy and Kyaukpyu which closed with smaller balances than in 1914-15. The position of the Moulmein Port Fund despite an increase of about Rs. 6,000 in the amount of its closing balance remained unsatisfactory inasmuch as repayments of instalments of principal and interest of loans which fell due in April 1915 and April 1916 could not be made and were postponed till April 1917. The means of meeting the liabilities of this fund and placing its finances on a sound basis are under consideration. The postponement of the repayment of the first instalment of the loan of Rs. 65,000 from the Local Government by the Port Fund of Tavoy for one year was sanctioned. At the end of the year the Moulmein Port Fund owed the Local Government Rs. 70,813 and the Tavoy Port Fund owed Rs. 69,631. There are four Pilot Funds in Burma, of which the receipts are principally derived from pilotage fees and the expenditure consists of cost of maintenance of pilot vessels and payments to pilots. The income and expenditure of the Rangoon Pilot Fund were Rs. 3·15 lakhs and Rs. 3·41 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·34 lakhs and Rs. 3·55 lakhs in 1914-15. The closing balance was reduced from Rs. 44,067 to Rs. 17,865. Measures for the improvement of the financial position of this Fund are under consideration. The aggregate receipts of the Akyab, Moulmein and Bassein Pilot Funds increased by Rs. 16,213 to Rs. 1·13 lakh and the aggregate closing balances from Rs. 15,895 to Rs. 17,126.

The balance at the credit of the Rangoon Police Reward Fund sank to four rupees at the end of the year. The receipts and expenditure of the Steam-boiler Inspection Fund during the year were Rs. 93,081 and Rs. 71,226 respectively as compared with Rs. 84,047 and Rs. 1,32,676 in 1914-15. The average receipts of the last three years have been in excess of the average expenditure by Rs. 23,531. The Fund holds 3½ per cent. Government securities to the face

value of Rs. 1·25 lakh in addition to a closing balance of Rs. 79,718. The total income of the Educational Syndicate Fund was Rs. 56,187 and its expenditure was Rs. 52,772. The Fund closed with a balance of Rs. 19,301, an increase over the figure of the previous year of Rs. 3,415. CHAP. V.—REVENUE AND FINANCE.

ROAD AND EDUCATION CESSES.

155. In Lower Burma contributions to education and local public works are made by the District Cess Funds which have been discussed in paragraph 152. No special cesses for these purposes are levied in the Province.

Municipal Revenues.

156. Including the opening balance of Rs. 9·64 lakhs the gross receipts of the Rangoon Municipality for the year amounted to Rs. 58·22 lakhs as compared with Rs. 64·18 lakhs in the previous year. Excluding the opening balance the total receipts of the year were Rs. 48·58 lakhs or Rs. 86,198 in excess of those of the previous year. Excluding the opening balance and loans, deposits, advances and realizations from the sale of securities in the sinking fund, the ordinary income amounted to Rs. 44·19 lakhs as against Rs. 43·53 lakhs in the previous year. Large advances were made from revenue to pay for works for which loans had been sanctioned but not raised, and the closing balance was in consequence reduced to Rs. 1·06 lakh. The gross expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 57·17 lakhs and exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 2·63 lakhs. Excluding payments for works which would ordinarily have been paid for from loans and the amount in suspense account, the ordinary expenditure for the year was Rs. 45·27 lakhs as compared with Rs. 43·08 lakhs in 1914-15. The expenditure under the head of capital was Rs. 1·18 lakh as compared with Rs. 5·41 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 6·61 lakhs was advanced on account of works which will eventually be paid for from loans and will be refunded when the loans are raised. Rangoon Municipality.

The income derived from rates and taxes increased by Rs. ·68 lakh from Rs. 32·75 lakhs to Rs. 33·43 lakhs. The increase was due to the assessment to municipal taxation of new buildings and to the imposition of a tax on privately owned vehicles. The increase in the amount realized under special Acts from Rs. 17,584 to Rs. 34,118 was due to the fact that a whole year's hackney carriage license fees were credited instead of the fees for only five months as in the previous year and to the fees for licenses for taxi-cabs. The revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation increased from Rs. 9·27 lakhs to Rs. 9·51 lakhs. This increase of Rs. 24,000 was chiefly derived from an increase in the conservancy receipts of Rs. 2,200 derived from the sale of manure and an increase of Rs. 12,500 in the license fees for hand-carts, due to a change in the method of collection, half the license fees for 1914-15 in addition to the whole of the fees for 1915-16 being credited in the latter year. Other items contributing to the increase were pawnshop-license fees Rs. 9,000, fines under municipal and other Acts Rs. 5,800 and interest on sinking fund investments Rs. 8,000. On the other hand there was a decrease of Rs. 12,800 under the head of "water fund receipts" caused by the falling off in the receipts from water supplied for non-domestic purposes and to shipping. The chief items of increase of expenditure were Rs. 59,598 under "public safety" for the purchase of a fire engine and escape, Rs. 27,217 under "conservancy" for improvements to bullock depôts and purchase of new conservancy carts, Rs. 25,671 under "sanitation" due to larger expenditure on paving back-drainage spaces, Rs. 22,640 under "markets and slaughter-houses" caused by increases in establishment and repairs, Rs. 1·16 lakh under "public works" due to larger expenditure on re-metalling roads, deferred payments for asphalte paving laid in previous years and the cost of a new steam-launch and Rs. 14,312 under "payments to sinking fund." There were decreases amounting to Rs. 1·40 lakh

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consisting of Rs. 61,000 spent on the new municipal office and charged off to revenue account and of Rs. 79,000 under "water and drainage works" resulting from savings in coal consumption and less expenditure on improvements.

Excluding loans aggregating Rs. 60·5 lakhs raised for the Town Lands Reclamation Fund the loans outstanding on 1st April 1915 amounted to Rs. 1,32·88 lakhs. The annual instalment of Rs. 57,500 towards the repayment of the 1887 loan of Rs. 23 lakhs was paid and the outstanding liabilities at the close of the year were Rs. 1,32,30,500. The face value of the securities in the sinking fund was Rs. 30·42 lakhs. Certain deficiencies in the sinking fund, caused by the abnormal depreciation of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Government securities on account of the war, were brought to the notice of the municipal committee, which applied to the Local Government for sanction to postpone their adjustment till 1920. No loan has been raised in the open market since 1912 and the Local Government has sanctioned an overdraft not exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs from the Bank of Bengal to the municipal committee. The loan charges for the year were Rs. 10·03 lakhs, of which Rs. ·575 lakh was repayment, Rs. 5·87 lakhs interest, Rs. 3·50 lakhs sinking fund and Rs. 8,947 management charges.

The loans raised for reclamation purposes outstanding at the close of the year amounted to Rs. $60\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs against securities in the sinking fund of the face value of Rs 10·21 lakhs. The fund opened with a credit balance of Rs. 3·82 lakhs on the 1st April 1915, of which Rs 41,163, the unexpended balance of the amount advanced during the previous year for works, was in the hands of the Deputy Accountant-General, Public Works Accounts, Burma. The receipts for the year were Rs. 5·83 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 7·36 lakhs. Included in the receipts was a special item of Rs. 33,529 on account of the transfer to the municipality of Government Promissory notes erroneously purchased for the 16 lakhs loan of 1902, and a sum of Rs. 22,982 adjusted on account of stores purchased in previous years. The fund closed with a credit balance of Rs. 2·31 lakhs which includes an unexpended balance of Rs. 91,609 in the hands of the Deputy Accountant-General from advances made for works during the year.

Other municipalities.

157. Exclusive of debt accounts amounting to Rs. 1·83 lakh and of opening balances amounting to Rs. 19·80 lakhs, the total income of the municipalities in the Province, omitting Rangoon, was Rs. 46·11 lakhs as compared with Rs. 48·86 lakhs in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was Rs. 48·34 lakhs as against Rs. 45·90 lakhs in the preceding year, and the aggregate of the closing balances Rs. 16·03 lakhs as against Rs. 19·53 lakhs. There was a reduction from Rs. 81,318 to Rs. 37,502 in the amount of arrears of revenue uncollected at the close of the year, the largest amounts being at Mandalay and Toungoo. Municipal rates and taxes produced Rs. 17·88 lakhs as compared with Rs. 17·62 lakhs in the preceding year. The large decrease of Rs. 34,592 at Akyab was due to a change in the period of collection, and the increase of Rs 32,580 at Toungoo to more complete collection of the current year's taxes and the inclusion of arrears collected on account of previous years. Realizations under special Acts produced Rs. 54,829 as compared with Rs. 45,819 in the previous year. Moulmein was responsible for an increase of Rs 6,230 chiefly on account of fees for hackney carriage licenses which owing to a strike were not taken out in 1914-15. The total revenue from other sources amounted to Rs. 18·96 lakhs as compared with Rs. 19·61 lakhs in the previous year. The income under this head increased in 13 municipalities, more especially in Insein, Prome, Bassein and Shwebo. In Shwebo the increase, being due to the inclusion in the accounts of advance collections on account of the following year, was merely apparent. In Bassein the increase was also unreal as it was due to the collection of arrears due in the previous year. Decreases were reported in the following cases, Pegu Rs. 13,527, Kyaiklat Rs. 11,272, Toungoo Rs. 10,134, Gyobingauk Rs. 6,984, Moulmein Rs. 6,560, Henzada Rs. 6,444 and numerous smaller amounts in other municipalities. The receipts under this head consist chiefly of fees and revenue from markets and slaughter-houses and the decrease was caused by the trade depression resulting from the war. The aggregate total of grants and contributions fell from Rs. 10·51 lakhs to Rs. 8·14 lakhs and consisted mainly of the two

recurring grants of Rs. 6 lakhs for urban sanitary improvement and refunds of unutilized grants of former years amounting to Rs. 1·35 lakh.

On the expenditure side general administration and collection charges amounted to Rs. 5·32 lakhs as compared with Rs. 3·88 lakhs in the previous year. The increase at Syriam was due to the refund to a ferry licensee of an advance collection of Rs. 9,656 on his surrender of his license. In Pyapôn a grant of Rs. 63,032 made by the Local Government for the construction of a new bazaar but not utilized was refunded, and a grant of Rs. 73,040 to the municipality of Moulmein for a sewage disposal scheme was refunded for the same reason. The increase at Taungdwingyi was due to the building of a new municipal office and at Shwebo to the refund of an overpayment. Under the head of public safety the municipal committee of Mandalay incurred increased expenditure amounting to Rs. 8,695 as improvements to the Fire Brigade staff and equipment. In Akyab an increase of Rs. 5,654 was due mainly to the purchase of lamp-posts and the employment of more lamp-lighters. The total expenditure under the head of public safety rose from Rs. 2·60 lakhs to Rs. 2·70 lakhs. Variations under other heads of expenditure were: Water-works Rs. 4·31 lakhs as against Rs. 4·14 lakhs, Drainage Rs. 1·30 lakh as against Rs. 1·06 lakh, Conservancy Rs. 8·16 lakhs as against Rs. 8·14 lakhs, charges on account of Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors Rs. 88,951 as against Rs. 50,006, Hospitals and Dispensaries Rs. 6·08 lakhs as against Rs. 8·31 lakhs, Markets and Slaughter-houses Rs. 4·98 lakhs as against Rs. 4·36 lakhs, Public Works Rs. 8·92 lakhs as against Rs. 7·55 lakhs, and Public Instruction Rs. 2·14 lakhs as against Rs. 1·94 lakh. The liabilities on account of interest declined from Rs. 1·26 lakh to Rs. 1·14 lakh. No loans were granted during the year.

Other Funds.

158. There are four educational endowment funds, namely, the Jardine, the Maung Ohn Ghine, the Renoung, and the Coplestone Funds. These funds do not bank with Government and their accounts do not therefore appear in the Government Books. The accounts of the Official Assignee are similarly excluded.

Paper Currency.

159. The total or gross circulation of currency notes in 1915-16 stood at an average of Rs. 5,37 lakhs as against Rs. 4,94 lakhs in 1914-15 and Rs. 5,27 lakhs in 1913-14. On 30th April 1915 the gross circulation was Rs. 5,22 lakhs. It fell to a minimum of Rs. 4,45 lakhs on 16th December 1915 and rose to a maximum of Rs. 7,13 lakhs on 24th February 1916, the sudden rise in the circulation in February being due to the payment of telegraphic transfers from India in currency notes. In 1913-14 the average gross circulation of currency notes was Rs. 5,27 lakhs, the maximum circulation Rs. 7,89 lakhs on 5th March 1914 and the minimum Rs. 4,07 lakhs on 2nd December 1913, in 1914-15 the average was Rs. 4,94 lakhs, the maximum Rs. 6,07 lakhs on 11th March 1915 and the minimum Rs. 4,21 lakhs on 27th August 1914. There is no reserve treasury in Burma and to determine the active or net circulation, the value of notes of the Rs. 10,000 denomination has been excluded from the gross circulation. For the year 1915-16 the average of the net or active circulation on the last day of each month was Rs. 4,82·24 lakhs, the similar average for 1914-15 being Rs. 4,12·00 lakhs. The increase in the gross circulation over that of the previous year was thus Rs. 43 lakhs and in the active circulation Rs. 70 lakhs. The difference of Rs. 27 lakhs in the two figures represents the decrease in the circulation of Rs. 10,000 notes which depends mainly on the requirements of the local banks. Such notes are stocked by the banks and during the busy season are tendered at the currency office and exchanged for coin or notes of smaller values. That the adverse effect of the war in Europe on the note circulation has passed away is shown by the fact that the net circulation, which after increasing steadily every

year from 1906-07 suddenly fell in 1914-15 by Rs. 59·62 lakhs, increased in the year of report by Rs. 70·24 lakhs. Of the total value of notes in circulation on 31st March 1916 notes of the Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 denominations formed 94·27 per cent. As in the previous year the circulation of the 10-rupee note was greater than that of the 100-rupee note in value and supplied nearly 60 per cent. of the total volume of currency. The proportion of the 100-rupee note decreased by 3·41 per cent.

CHAPTER VI.

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

REFERENCES—

Report on the Sanitary Administration of Burma for the year 1915.
Notes and Statistics on Hospitals and Dispensaries in Burma for the year 1915.
Report on the working of the Government Medical School, Rangoon, for the year 1915-16.
Note on the Lunatic Asylums in Burma for the year 1915.
Notes and Statistics on Vaccination in Burma for the year 1915-16.
Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume III.

Births and Deaths.

Area under registration and total population.

160. No change was effected during the year in the system in force for the registration of births and deaths. The total registration area and the population on which births and deaths are calculated therefore remained the same as in the previous year. For purposes of sanitary administration, Thayetmyo District, which was hitherto included in Lower Burma, has during the year been brought under Upper Burma. The total registration area and census population for 1911 for Lower Burma have been reduced by 4,750 square miles and 248,275 persons (area and population of Thayetmyo District) which have been added to the figures for Upper Burma.

Number of births and deaths.

161. The number of registered births exceeded registered deaths in Lower Burma by 50,735 and in Upper Burma by 19,666 showing a total increase of 7 per mille of the whole population of the Province. The total of registered births in 1915 was 346,250 of which 177,575 were males and 168,675 females, the proportion of males born to every 100 females being 105. The birth-rate for the Province was 35·13, and for Lower and Upper Burma respectively, 33·39 and 38·01. The corresponding ratios for 1914 were 35·40, 34·70, and 36·69, and the previous 5 years' mean 33·70, 32·69, and 35·36. The rural birth-rates for the Province were 36·24, for Lower Burma 34·85, and for Upper Burma 38·43. The urban birth-rates were, Provincial 26·29, Lower Burma 23·32, and Upper Burma 33·50. In Lower Burma Hanthawaddy, Pegu, Tharrawaddy, Prome and Bassein Districts recorded lower birth-rates than the mean of the previous 5 years, while in Upper Burma Thayetmyo is the only district returning a similar low birth-rate. The total of registered deaths for the Province in 1915 was 275,849. Of these 234,365 occurred in rural areas, and 41,484 in towns. The provincial death-rate was 27·99 against 24·13 in 1914 and 24·99 in 1913, and the previous 5 years' mean of 25·81. The rural death-rate was 26·76, and the urban death-rate 37·76. Both were in excess of the previous 5 years' mean. The death-rates for Lower and Upper Burma respectively were 25·12 and 32·72, for rural areas 24·03 and 31·07, and for urban areas 32·62 and 50·24. The high general mortality was largely due to a severe epidemic of cholera which affected many districts of both Lower and Upper Burma, producing a district death-rate from this cause of 4·90 per mille in Mergui, 4·06 in Mandalay, 3·65 in Lower Chindwin, 3·54 in Sagaing, and 3·33 in Tharrawaddy Districts. Deaths from all causes except small-pox and plague were in excess of the previous year's mortality. In seven districts in Lower Burma (Sandoway, Rangoon, Hanthawaddy, Pyapôn, Bassein, Amherst and Thatôn) the death-rate was below the mean of the previous 5 years and in Upper Burma Thayetmyo had a similar low death-rate. Out of 39 towns in Lower Burma 19 towns had death-rates below the previous 5 years' mean and this was the case also in Upper Burma for 6 out of 20 towns. The provincial rate of infant mortality per mille of births in 1915 was 219·35

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as against 216·36 in 1914 and 221·40 in 1913. The Upper Burma rate was heavier than that of Lower Burma. The provincial urban infantile death-rate is rather less than 50 per cent. in excess of the rural rate, that of Lower Burma rather more than 50 per cent. in excess of the Lower Burma rural rate, and that of Upper Burma between 50 and 60 per cent. in excess of the Upper Burma rural rate. The work performed through the agency of the Society for the Prevention of Infantile Mortality, Mandalay, appears to have materially reduced the total infant mortality among the families attended. Useful work is being performed by the Rangoon Society, and a Society on similar lines has been inaugurated at Moulmein. Sagaing is performing equally valuable work through the agency of a special maternity ward under a Committee of officials and citizens.

Causes of death.

162. The registered mortality from different causes in 1915 is compared below with the figures for 1914:

	1915.	1914.
Cholera	17,597	2,073
Small-pox	217	258
Plague	4,640	7,488
Fevers	84,240	76,127
Dysentery and Diarrhœa	11,586	8,111
Respiratory Diseases	8,529	7,969
Suicide	199	170
Wounding or accident	1,778	1,704
Snakebite or killed by wild beasts	2,052	1,647
Rabies	27	17
All other causes	144,984	132,264
Total ...	275,849	237,828

There has been an increase in 1915 of 38,021 deaths over the figures of 1914, chiefly due to heavy mortality from cholera, fever, dysentery and diarrhœa. Plague in Burma is mainly prevalent in towns, and its incidence in rural areas is as a rule so relatively unimportant that the progress of the epidemic is best discussed with special reference to urban mortality. Thus the total of plague deaths in towns of Burma during 1915 was 3,711 with a death-rate of 3·38 per mille, while there were only 929 deaths in rural areas, giving a death-rate of 0·11 per mille; the plague death-rate for the whole Province being 0·47 per mille, and total deaths 4,640. The previous five years' mean plague death-rate was 0·60. At Sagaing in anticipation of serious mortality from plague no less than 9,500 persons out of a total census population of 10,937 living within municipal limits were inoculated with plague prophylactic in the short space of one month, and although rats continued to die all over the town plague among the human population was reduced to narrow limits. In other plague-infected areas the importance of anti-plague inoculation has received full recognition by the authorities. In Mandalay city 8,144 inoculations were performed, 6,771 of these in the last three months of 1915. In rural areas of Mandalay District 7,760 inoculations were performed during the year. The total inoculations for the year were 39,980, of which 9,609 were performed in Lower Burma and 30,381 in Upper Burma. The number of rats destroyed in 1915, as reported, was 477,250, of which 24,109 were killed in Upper Burma and 429,465 in Rangoon.

Fevers.—Mortality under this head was greater in Upper than in Lower Burma, the respective death-rates in rural areas for the two sections of the Province being 9·47 and 8·87 respectively. There is evidence that malarial fever was more prevalent and destructive to life in many districts in 1915 than in the previous year. High fever death-rates were returned for Akyab (14·28), Sandoway (11·43), Tharrawaddy (14·68), Prome (13·52), Mandalay (17 48), Shwebo (12·79), Yamèthin (12·07), Kyauksè (12·38), Minbu (11·51), all of which were in excess of the previous year's record, some, especially those of Tharrawaddy, Mandalay and Kyauksè very much so. In Akyab, Tharrawaddy, and Prome Districts the wide prevalence of cholera probably accounted for a considerable number of deaths really due to that cause being returned under "fever," and this may have been the case in Mandalay and some other districts also. The high rates of

fever mortality in the irrigated districts, Shwebo, Mandalay, Kyauksè and Minbu attracted attention and enquiries are being made with a view to reduce death-rate from this cause.

Quinine.

163. The number of packets of quinine-sulphate tablets (each packet containing 400 grains of the drug), sold or freely distributed during 1915, was 72,367, against 55,258 in 1914. The packets of 5-grain tablets totalled 56,471½ and of one-grain tablets 15,895½. Free distribution was made to the extent of 215,600 grains, equivalent to 839 packets. The outturn of quinine tablets by the Rangoon Central Jail Quinine Department) was greatly in excess of the previous year, 4,180,170 five-grain and 5,283,950 one-grain tablets being issued, against 2,842,160 five-grain and 5,334,000 one-grain in 1914. The quinine value of both sizes of the tablets produced was checked by frequent analyses. The proper proportion of quinine sulphate as designated for each sample of the tablets was found to be maintained with close exactitude.

Emigration and Immigration.

164. The total of immigrants into Burma through the ports of Akyab, Kyaukpyu, Moulmein, Rangoon, Tavoy and Mergui, was 338,890, an increase of 70,474 and the total of emigrants from these ports 249,076 an increase of 102,791, on the previous year. The excess population by immigration over emigration was 89,814 or 32,317 less than in 1914. No record of immigrants or emigrants was maintained at Bassein port.

Medical Relief.

Hospitals and dispensaries.

165. Six new institutions were opened and two closed during the year 1915. The results of work done by three travelling dispensaries were included for the first time in the hospital statistics of the year. At the end of the year there were 279 hospitals and dispensaries affording medical relief.

Attendance and treatment.

166. The total number of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries aggregated 1,791,792 as against 1,666,202 in 1914. The chief diseases treated in the order of prevalence were :—

"All other Diseases of the Digestive System,"
"Malaria,"
"Other Diseases of the Skin," "Ulcers";
"All Diseases of the Respiratory System except Pneumonia and Tubercle of the lungs,"
"Injuries (General and Local),"
"Diseases of the eye," and
"Dyspepsia."

There were 787 cases of cholera, 248 cases of plague and 338 cases of small-pox treated at the hospitals during 1915 as against 117, 640 and 179 cases respectively in the preceding year. Four thousand two hundred and forty-eight deaths occurred during the year among in-door patients. The mortality was 6·4 per cent. of the total treated in 1915 as against 5·9 per cent. in 1914. The daily average attendance among out-door patients has increased from 8,523 in 1914 to 9,025 in the year of report. The ratio percentage of total treated in the case of the Burmese community has increased from 52·3 in 1914 to 54·2 in 1915, thus showing a steady progress in the medical relief afforded to the indigenous population. The death-rate among the patients operated on was 0·51 in the year of report as against 0·61 in 1914. The Burma Pasteur Institute, Rangoon, was opened for treatment in May 1915 and 146 patients underwent a full course of anti-rabic treatment during the eight months of the year of report. The "Discrimination Scheme," introduced in the paying rooms of the Rangoon General Hospital from the 1st September 1914, has worked satisfactorily.

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General.

167. The total expenditure on hospitals and dispensaries during the year of report amounted to Rs. 20,73,852 against Rs. 19,83,469 in 1914 showing an increase of Rs. 90 383 over that of the previous year. There was no addition either to the cadre of the I.M.S. or to the number of Civil Surgeons. The cadre of Civil Assistant Surgeons was increased by one and the number of appointments sanctioned for Sub-Assistant Surgeons was 378 including a reserve of 75. The cadre was 19 short at the close of the year 1915. Under the "Results System Midwife Scheme" 8 midwives qualified and ten others are under training. The scheme by which 5 Burmese and Karen women are entertained annually for a two-years' course in sick-nursing at the General Hospital, Rangoon, was brought into force on the 1st July 1915. The number of students taught in the Burma Government Medical School, Rangoon, during the year of report is 75, *viz.* 42 Burmese, 4 Chinese, 25 Indians and 4 Anglo-Indians; seven of these are females. Five passed the final qualifying examination in 1915. The general education of the new admissions during the year has been satisfactory. During the year of report the School received from Mr. A. K. A. S. Jamal, C.I.E., a generous donation of Rs. 1,000, the interest on which is to be devoted to the purchase of a gold medal to be presented annually to the student who heads the list at the final examination.

Lunatic Asylums.

168. The population of the Rangoon and Minbu Lunatic Asylums on the last day of the year was 641 against 587 in 1914 and the daily average strength has also increased from 575·78 in 1914 to 623·18 during the year of report. The total percentage of mortality to the daily average strength of the two asylums rose from 6·08 in 1914 to 8·50 in 1915. The total amount spent for the upkeep of the two asylums in 1915 was Rs. 1,69,194 against Rs. 1,60,905 in 1914. In Rangoon the average cost of diet per head has increased from Rs. 81 in 1914 to Rs. 86 in the year of report, while the average cost per head of average strength has decreased from Rs. 214 in 1914 to Rs. 204 in 1915. In Minbu the average cost of diet was Rs. 46 against Rs. 52 in the previous year. The cost per head of average strength has also shown a decrease from Rs. 127 to Rs. 124 in 1915. The Manufacturing Department yielded a net profit of Rs. 16,517 against Rs. 13,889 in the previous year.

Sanitation.

Principal works and expenditure.

169. Two Divisional Sanitary Board Meetings were held during 1915, one under the Commissioner, Pegu Division, at Minhla on the 7th September to consider a water-supply scheme and the other under the Commissioner, Irrawaddy Division, at Bassein. An informal meeting was held on the 9th June at Maymyo regarding the purifying of the Maymyo water-supply.

At the Bassein meeting proposals were considered for—

(1) the selection of a new site for Lemyethna town;

(2) the new municipal food-stuff bazaar at Bassein;

(3) the lay-out of Athok, Zavathla and Yegyi "railway towns" and the construction of fish, meat and pork bazaars in the three towns.

Certain general rules to be observed in the lay-out of towns were agreed upon. The recurring sanitary grant of Rs. 6,00,000 by the Imperial Government for 1915-16, augmented by refunds amounting to Rs. 1,35,524 from Moulmein Municipality and from other local bodies, was distributed during the financial year for the furtherance of urban sanitation. Tube-wells were sunk at Nattalin, Yenangyaung, Myingyan, Pyinmana, Bhamo and Bassein. The water at Myingyan was brackish and unusable while that at Yenangyaung was inadequate. At Zigôn, Gyobingauk, Yamèthin and Wakèma no water was found. Projects for the water-supply of Ma-ubin, Letpadan, Meiktila, Pakôkku and Minhla were completed and are awaiting sanction. Plans and estimates for the construction of public markets at Thôngwa, Sandoway, Shwegyin and Thônzè were also prepared, but owing to the heavy rise in the price of imported building materials, market construction has almost everywhere been suspended. All the Military Assistant Surgeons and Sub-Assistant Surgeons attached to the Sanitary Department having reverted to military duty

the work of the department had to be carried on by the Sanitary Commissioner in most branches throughout the year practically without qualified assistants. The total expenditure of the various Municipal and Local Funds on sanitary works during 1915 was Rs. 57,51,320 out of a total income of Rs. 1,96,05,306 as against an expenditure of Rs. 56,52,187 and an income of Rs. 1,91,25,924 in 1913-14; of this total expenditure Rs. 20,49,437 was spent on water-supply, Rs. 7,09,068 on drainage, Rs. 16,95,854 on conservancy and Rs. 12,96,961 on other sanitary works.

Vaccination.

Establishment.

170. The total number of Native Superintendents of Vaccination on the cadre of the department during the year was 41 as compared with 44 (revised figures) in 1914-15. In addition 22 Sub-Assistant Surgeons received allowances varying from Rs. 5 to Rs. 20 for supervising vaccination work in certain Municipalities and notified areas. Three appointments of Native Superintendent of Vaccination were abolished, one in Moulmein Town and two in the Northern Shan States. The staff of vaccinators increased from 280 to 297. The new appointments created were two in the Northern Shan States, one each in Akyab, Thôngwa, Ngathainggyaung, Moulmein and Tavoy Municipalities, and one in Mergui District. Fourteen appointments of Registrar—vaccinators in the Rangoon Municipality have this year been included in the vaccination staff, the original three vaccinators' appointments having been abolished. Two vaccinators' appointments respectively in Thatôn and Kyaikto Municipalities were abolished. Fifteen district vaccinators were departmentally punished by either removal or dismissal.

Number of operations.

171. The total number of persons vaccinated during the year by special staff, *i.e.* Town and District public vaccinators, amounted to 459,047 as compared with 459,122 in 1914-15, a decrease of 75. In addition to this 4,477 persons were vaccinated at dispensaries, 9,729 by private agencies, and 26,175 in jails, making up a total of 499,428 persons. Primary operations amounted to 385,399 or 11,065 less than in 1914-15. The total of re-vaccinations was 74,446, an increase of 10,334. Successful primary operations totalled 362,492 and successful re-vaccinations 34,466. The former showed a deficit of 2,979 and the latter of 118. All districts in Arakan Division together show a deficit of 1,680 primary successes. Sandoway District alone had no deficit. In Pegu Division there was an increase of 2,922, attributable to Prome District (1,363), Pegu District (916), Rangoon Municipality (641) and Hanthawaddy District (268). In the two remaining districts the deficiency was almost nominal, that in Tharrawaddy being only 22, and in Insein 244. Irrawaddy Division returned an increase of 5,469 shared between Pyapôn (3,158), Ma-ubin (1,252), Henzada (1,218) and Myaungmya (691). The increase in Pyapôn District amounts to 68 per cent. of last year's total. Four out of six districts in Tenasserim Division shared in the increase of 2,447 successful primary operations, Amherst District (1,310), Tavoy (972), Mergui (791) and Thatôn (683). Toungoo and Salween Districts returned a decrease of 1,214 and 95 primary successful operations respectively. Mandalay Division shows a deficit of 5,139 successful primary operations. The district which recorded the largest decrease in this division was Katha (3,843) followed by Myitkyina District (1,049), Mandalay District (379) and Bhamo (22). Only the Ruby Mines District shows an increase of 154. In Sagaing Division, Shwebo and Lower Chindwin Districts returned an increase of 2,264 and 1,128 respectively, while there was a deficit in Sagaing District of 1,029 and in the Upper Chindwin District of 66; the net increase being 2,279 in the whole division. Pakôkku District alone in the Magwe Division shows an increase of 2,016 operations; the three remaining districts return an aggregate decrease of 2,823 to which Thayetmyo contributed 1,061, Magwe 992, and Minbu 770. A deficit in successful primary operations aggregating 2,054 was recorded for Meiktila Division; this was shared by Yamèthin (1,450), Myingyan (783) and Kyauksè (5) Districts. Meiktila District alone shows an increase of 184. From the Northern Shan States and

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Chin Hills 728 and 761 successful primary operations, respectively, were reported in excess of the previous year's figures; but in the Southern Shan States there was a decrease of 7,923 successful operations. In the year of report every district in the Province shows a decline in the number of re-vaccinations except the Rangoon Town District which returned a large increase of 7,537 successful re-vaccinations and Yamèthin District which returns an increase of 1,480—in both instances the prevalence of small-pox being the direct cause of rise in the number of operations. The percentage of successful operations in which the results were known was 97·14 in primary and 57·18 in re-vaccination as compared with 94·93 and 60·46 respectively in 1914-15. The protection afforded by vaccination per 1,000 of population was 32·7. The total survivors of births in 57 towns during the year was 19,398 and the number of infants vaccinated 20,951, an excess of 1,553 over the total survivors. This excess is mainly to be explained by neglect to register births and by the inclusion in the total of visitors to the towns. In 57 towns 31,973 primary successful operations at all ages were reported, an increase of 468 over the returns of 1914-15. Out of a total of 394,791 persons primarily vaccinated by all the agencies, Civil Surgeons and other superior inspecting officers verified 46,676 or 11·82 per cent. Native Superintendents of Vaccination verified 193,786 or 49·09 per cent. against 69,630 or 17·22 per cent. verified by the Civil Surgeons and 221,030 or 54·68 per cent. by Native Superintendents of Vaccination in the previous year. Of the total persons subjected to primary vaccination 60·91 per cent. were verified. The falling off in the verification work performed by the Civil Surgeons and other superior inspecting officers may partly be due to the absence on military duty of one Deputy Sanitary Commissioner and many of the more experienced Civil Surgeons, during the year. The decrease in the verification work of the Native Superintendents of Vaccination is partly accounted for by the diminution in the strength of Native Superintendent Staff. The total number of persons vaccinated in all the dispensaries was 4,477, an increase of 1,393 on the previous year's record. Of this increase 1,145 were primary and 248 re-vaccinations. The total operations in jails numbered 26,175 against 26,475 in 1914-15. The percentage of success was primary 70·67 and re-vaccination 62·17.

General.

172. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,20,475 being Rs. 14,206 in excess of the expenditure for 1914-15. This excess expenditure is due to the increases under Establishment (Rs. 8,270), Travelling Allowance (Rs. 883) and Contingencies (Rs. 5,052). Of this increase Rs. 11,753 was borne by Provincial Funds. The excess under Establishment and Travelling Allowance is accounted for by the increase in the staff of vaccinators and the grant of increments of salary to all grades. That under Contingencies was due to an increase under this head of expenditure in the Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila, of Rs. 5,436-6-4. The average cost of each successful operation for the Province was Re. 0-9-1, an increase of 8 pies per case. The district which returned the lowest cost per successful vaccination is Myingyan (Re. 0-4-6). An exceptionally high average cost was returned by Northern Arakan (Rs. 2-0-2), Northern Shan States (Re. 1-14-9), Ruby Mines (Re. 1-7-6) and Southern Shan States (Re. 1-3-7).

Vaccine Depôt, Meiktila.

173. The new Laboratory buildings were occupied on 1st April 1915. The old laboratory is used as a lecture room for students under training. The outturn of glycerinated lymph was 748,720 doses against 776,432 in 1914-15. The total number of doses issued to vaccinators and others was 722,314 which is less than in either of the two preceding years. Experiments were made in storing lymph in the refrigerator for four months, at the end of which period the samples gave excellent results when inoculated into calves. Sixteen Native Superintendents of Vaccination and forty vaccinators underwent training during the year. All of the latter and eight only of the former passed out at the end of their course. Four Native Superintendents of Vaccination passed after further training.

CHAPTER VII.

INSTRUCTION.

REFERENCES —

Report on Public Instruction in Burma for the year 1915-16.
Statistical Abstract for British India, Volumes IV and V.

General System of Public Instruction.

See paragraphs 253 to 280 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Education.

Educational measures and events.

174. Among the more important or interesting events of the year may be mentioned a conference for the improvement of Kachin education and the initiation of a scheme for revision of Kachin grants and the preparation of Kachin text-books, the revision of the reformatory regulations, the administrative separation of the Government Normal School from the Government High School, Rangoon, the revival of the commercial examination, the publication of a revised (the 7th) edition of the Burma Education Code and of two volumes of "Departmental Circulars and Instructions," the issue of revised rules for Government High Schools and Hostels, sanction to the appointment of a lecturer in Persian at the Government College and the issue of revised regulations for Normal schools and teachers' examinations. Among important matters that have come under consideration are the use of the cinematograph for visual instruction, a scheme for an employment bureau for students leaving school or college, the removal of disorderly houses from the vicinity of educational institutions, the improvement and extension of the Provincial scholarship scheme, the revision of type plans for school buildings, the courses in domestic economy and hygiene for girls, the utilization of the St. John Ambulance Association for instruction in "first aid" and kindred subjects in Anglo-Vernacular and European schools. On some of these subjects decisions were reached but others are still under consideration. Lectures on the war were given regularly in Anglo-Vernacular and European schools and, in addition to other literature, copies of the Bryce report on German atrocities in Belgium were distributed to the heads of these institutions.

The bill and statutes for the University of Burma were completely redrafted and in their new form were approved by the Educational Syndicate as were proposals for the early establishment of the University on the lines indicated in an "interim" scheme to be adopted until the removal of the existing financial stringency and the possibility of executing larger measures. There was a serious "strike" among the boys attending the Government High School, Rangoon. Inquiry into the causes revealed a grave lack of discipline and almost entire absence of any realization of responsibility on the part of some of the senior pupils. The strikers employed violence and intimidation in public thoroughfares which entailed repression by the police. The ring-leaders were expelled and debarred from admission to other schools and colleges and to public examinations. Other participants were punished according to their several degrees of guilt.

Number of schools and scholars and expenditure.

175. In spite of the war and its effects the numbers under instruction increased, and not in one stage only but in all. The number of schools of all kinds including private was 26,375 with an attendance of 563,154 pupils of whom 117,273 were females, as against 25,766 schools with an attendance of 550,500 pupils of whom 112,802 were females in 1914-15. The percentage of male scholars to the male population of school-going age was 48·07 and of female scholars to the female population 13·18 as against 47·19 and 12·66 in the previous year. Of the total number of schools 9,075 were public with an attendance of 377,005 pupils and 17,300 were private with 186,149 pupils. The total increase in the number of pupils attending all "public" institutions (*i.e.*, all

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maintained by either Government or other public authority or aided or recognized by Government) was 15,851. On the other hand "private" institutions (*i.e.*, schools neither maintained by Government or other public authority nor aided or recognized) diminished by 3,197 pupils and 119 institutions. In view however of the utter unreliability of the statistics adduced for these schools, little, if any, importance should be attached to this apparent falling off. In comparison with recent years the rate of progress perceptibly declined. Thus for the year 1914-15 a gain of 37,069 pupils was recorded; whereas for 1915-16 the increment does not reach half that figure. Analysis of the statistics reveals further symptoms of retardation. In 1915-16 the average number of pupils in a Secondary institution was 92 as against 96 in 1914-15, in an Upper Primary School 41 as against 43 and in a Lower Primary School 26 against 27. The net total increase in the category of Lower Primary education is indeed remarkably small. The numbers attending colleges increased considerably and those attending special schools in a very slight degree. The total percentages of increase for both public and private institutions and pupils therein were 2 and 2 against 6 and 9 respectively in the previous year. The quantitative diminution in the general rate of progress was most marked in the lowest and least in the highest educational categories. This result as regards the former was due not merely to the general effects of the war but also to the exhaustion of special stimuli previously operative, an exhaustion due partly to want of funds and partly to natural causes inherent in the material and machinery concerned.

The total expenditure on education during the year was Rs. 65·14 lakhs as against Rs. 69·35 lakhs in 1914-15. There was thus a decrease of nearly Rs. 4·21 lakhs. Funds were provided from the following sources:—

Rupees 27·04 lakhs (including Imperial grants amounting to Rs. 6,23,467) from Provincial Funds, Rs. 6·39 lakhs from local funds, Rs. 4·78 lakhs from municipal funds, Rs. 20·32 lakhs from school fees, and Rs. 6·58 lakhs from subscriptions and endowments (private sources). The average expenditure per head of population fell from Re. 0-9-1 to Re. 0-8-6. The average cost of educating each pupil fell in Arts Colleges from Rs. 332·3 to Rs. 304·4, in Secondary schools from Rs. 23·04 to Rs. 22·9, in Upper Primary schools from Rs. 6·1 to Rs. 5·2. Taking all classes of pupils together, the average cost of education per pupil was Rs. 11·7 as against Rs. 12 in 1914-15.

Primary education.

176. The term "primary school" includes all European, Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular Schools teaching up to the fourth standard. It also includes for certain purposes the primary departments (Standards I to IV) of secondary schools. The number of public primary schools for boys and girls rose from 6,769 to 7,347, both boys' and girls' schools increasing. The attendance in these schools rose from 239,194 to 247,330. Vernacular primary schools for boys have increased in all areas except the Chin Hills, the total gain being 468 new schools and 6,241 additional scholars. The largest increase is in Meiktila Division. Government owns 8 upper primary vernacular schools with 743 pupils and one lower primary with 43. District Cess Funds support 4 upper primary schools with 186 pupils. The rest are aided schools belonging to private bodies or managers. In primary Anglo-Vernacular schools there has been an apparent falling off. The losses are however accounted for by promotion of schools to the middle grade.

The number of monastic schools registered by the Education Department is 3,418 containing 102,098 pupils (of whom 7,241 are girls) an average of nearly 30 pupils per school. By far the highest figures for both schools and pupils belong to the Meiktila Circle where the good work done by the special deputies is proving more enduring than elsewhere. The figure for girls is surprising. The largest number of girls returned as attending these schools is from the Irrawaddy Circle, where it reaches 3,022, Tenasserim and Pegu showing each about half that figure. On the other hand in Mandalay and Meiktila the figures for girls are much smaller and in Arakan smallest of all. If these figures can be accepted as reliable they point to a very important change of feeling on the part of both the

Buddhist public and the monastic order, and one which may have far-reaching effects. A further enquiry into the facts and figures, however, is desirable and will be instituted. The expenditure on primary schools for boys was Rs. 23·21 lakhs as compared with Rs. 23·89 lakhs in 1914-15. This expenditure (which includes the cost of primary departments of boys' secondary schools and covers also girls in such departments as well as in boys' primary schools) was met as follows:—From Provincial funds Rs. 5,82,905, district cess funds Rs. 4,83,466, municipal funds Rs. 2,45,193, fees and other sources Rs. 10,09,967. The total cost of primary education for boys and girls was approximately Rs. 27·7 lakhs. In 1914-15 it was Rs. 27·9 lakhs.

Secondary education.

177. The term "secondary education" connotes European (and Anglo-Indian), Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular education above the primary stage. But in this paragraph it is customary to deal with only the second and third of these categories and that too in respect of boys' schools only. It should however be clearly understood that the statistics for both Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular secondary schools for boys cover not only the primary departments attached to such schools but also any girls who may be in attendance. The number of Anglo-Vernacular secondary schools for boys rose from 119 to 128 and the attendance from 25,920 to 26,344. Of the pupils attending these schools 7 per cent. were in the high stage, 37 in the middle, 34 in the upper primary and 20 in the lower primary. The number of Vernacular secondary schools for boys rose by 96, from 957 to 1,053 and the attendance from 75,904 to 80,570. There was an increase of 7 schools and 1,247 pupils in the Vernacular High school stage. The percentages of attendance in the various stages of Vernacular Schools were: 2 in the high school stage, 10 in the middle, 20 in the upper primary and 68 in the lower primary. In view of possible developments in educational administration in the future it is worth remarking that out of 128 Anglo-Vernacular secondary schools for boys, 33 with 7,749 pupils belong to Government; four only, with 517 pupils, are supported by municipal or district cess funds; the rest are aided schools under private management belonging to missionary or other non-official bodies. Of the 23 Vernacular High schools three belong to Government and 20 to aided managers. In regard to "middle" schools, whether Anglo-Vernacular or Vernacular, it may be noted that theoretically they are all potential high schools, but that it is not always necessary or even desirable to develop vernacular middle into high schools. Anglo-Vernacular middle schools stand on a rather different footing. So long as a pass by the Anglo-Vernacular seventh standard examination is accepted by Government as a qualification for the lower grades of Government service, these schools will tend to be regarded as ends in themselves.

Examination results for 1915-16 were not very flattering to the work of the schools regarded generally. In the seventh standard Anglo-Vernacular and Vernacular schools the percentage of passes has dropped from 46·3 to 40·8, in the matriculation from 56·3 to 43·7, and in the high school final from 45·6 to 44·2. The number of presentations in each case increased, 216 candidates out of 488 passed the Anglo-Vernacular high school final, 234 out of 535 the Calcutta University matriculation, 1,199 out of 2,412 the Anglo-Vernacular seventh standard examination and 728 out of 2,307 the Vernacular seventh standard examination. The expenditure on secondary education rose from Rs. 27·03 lakhs to Rs. 28·39 lakhs. Provincial funds provided Rs. 9,08,855, district cess funds Rs. 2,52,100, municipal funds Rs. 3,47,403, fees Rs. 11,75,868 and private sources Rs. 1,54,967.

Collegiate education.

178. The number on the rolls of the two colleges on the 31st March 1916 was 645, at the Government College 567 and at the Baptist College 78. Burmans were in the majority, the remainder being fairly equally distributed between Mahomedans, Hindus, Native Christians, Anglo-Indians and "others." At the Government College 56 were presented for the B.A. and 32 passed, one gaining first division "honours" in Pâli, being the only B.A. candidate in the University in the first division in Pâli. In English 5 gained second division "honours." For the B.Sc. 11 were presented, 6 passing. For the I.A. 50 only out of 145 passed.

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The Baptist College enrolled 17 students for the B.A. and 71 for the I.A. (including 5 girls) but the total dwindled to 78 in all by 31st March, an increase however of 11 on the corresponding figure for 1914-15. Out of 6 presented for the B.A. 5 passed, and 10 out of 22 in the I.A. The College was granted affiliation in Honours in English. The Law class attached to the College began with 16 students of whom 12 endured to the end. The lecturer in charge noted that the standard of education among Law students has risen considerably in recent years; both in knowledge and generally the type of young men who are studying for the second grade Pleadership Examination seems to be improving. Outside the two colleges a certain number of students are permitted to appear "privately" for the Calcutta University examinations. During the year 1 Burman thus passed the M.A., 2 students the B.A., and 15 the I.A. The majority of these were attached to the Government Normal School, Rangoon, as normal students or teachers under training. The passes in the University Examinations in the two Colleges were as follows:—37 in the B.A. Examination, 6 in the B.Sc., 60 in the I.A., and 23 in the I.Sc. At the Medical College, Calcutta, 11 male and 3 female students from Burma held Burma Scholarships. At institutions in Madras 28 (including 3 girls) attended the course for Hospital Assistants at Royapuram, 5 that at Vizagapatam and 18 that at Tanjore. At the Government Medical School, Rangoon, the year started with 44 students on the roll and ended with 70, the large majority being Burmese and 7 being females. Under the Dufferin fund 34 females received instruction in midwifery. At the Veterinary School, Insein, the year began with 50 and ended with 59 pupils. At the Forest School, Pyinmana, on the 31st March 1916 there were 28 students most being Burman Buddhists. The Patamabyan Examinations of the year were the first held under the revised rules. Out of 1,589 candidates 412 passed as against 352 out of 1,273 in 1914-15. The total presented included 18 "nuns" and 11 laymen, of whom respectively but 4 and 5 passed. The expenditure on collegiate education rose from Rs. 1·95 lakh to Rs. 2·03 lakhs. It was met as follows:—From Provincial funds Rs. 1,04,209, fees Rs. 59,207 and private sources Rs. 40,231.

Technical education.

179. The agencies through which technical education was afforded were the same as in the previous year, namely the Government School of Engineering, Insein, the technical class attached to the railway workshops, Insein, the Government reformatory school, Insein, the Government survey schools, the King Edward Memorial School, Akyab, the American Baptist Mission Bghai-Karen School, Toungoo, and certain "commercial" schools in Rangoon. European and Anglo-Indian apprentices, for whom stipends are provided by Government, are taken at a number of engineering and other workshops belonging to important corporations or firms connected with technical work, *e.g.*, the Burma Railways, Irrawaddy Flotilla Company, Port Commissioners, Rangoon, the Rangoon Electric Tramways and Supply Company, Limited, Dalla Dockyards, Burma Chemical Industries, Messrs. Bulloch Bros. Two more "commercial" Schools in Rangoon have been added to the register without aid. The number of pupils returned as receiving "technical" instruction of one kind or another is 690 as against 606 in 1914-15: nearly half of this total, however, consisted of pupils in attendance at the four registered "commercial" schools, in which such subjects as shorthand, typewriting, book-keeping and commercial correspondence are taught. In Mandalay Circle weaving is still a popular subject. The manual training classes for "hand and eye" work attached to various Vernacular schools have not flourished so well as could be desired. The difficulty of providing and maintaining an adequate yet not excessive supply of properly trained teachers is great; budget complications have impeded and delayed the supply of necessary materials; the continued ill-health of the Assistant Inspector of Schools for Slöjd and Drawing has much hampered inspection; and lastly Inspectors have not yet succeeded in impressing on Deputy Inspectors their joint responsibility for the supervision of these classes. It was reported from several quarters that without the stimulus of monthly stipends it is difficult to get pupils to undergo a training in purely technical schools. A proposal for an employment bureau was under the consideration of the Education Department, the Educational Syndicate and the Director

of Agriculture. The Engineering School, Insein, had a successful year. There were 80 candidates for admission to the engineering classes, of whom 39 were selected: for the first time in the history of this school the recruitment of Burmans was in excess of the demand. The classes opened with 73 and closed with 55 pupils: the wastage, which seems excessive was due to the fact that many entrants were not prepared to take their work seriously enough. Third year students were engaged practically on a Public Works Department drainage survey scheme in the Amherst District. In addition to the engineering classes there is a "telegraph school" with two six-monthly courses, to which 85 students were admitted, 59 passing, 28 of the latter being Burmans. The apprentice class numbered 5: when their training is completed these youths will prove useful teachers in local technical schools or classes. Wood-carving was taught to four pupils by a master wood carver located on the premises. A similar arrangement was sanctioned for bronze workers.

Training schools.

180. The number of normal schools remains unchanged, *viz.* twelve, 8 for men and 4 for women. Four of those for men however are "co-educational", *i.e.* admit female students also, one of them being the Government Normal School, Rangoon. The number under training in the normal schools was 677, five more than last year. But in the schools for men the total was 514 as against 529 in 1914-15: on the other hand in schools for women the total was 163 against 143 in the previous year. Anglo-Vernacular normal students numbered 279 of whom 121 were women: Vernacular Normal students numbered 107 women and 291 men. There are no separate courses or certificates for European or Anglo-Indian teachers. The latter may however qualify under certain special conditions set forth in the code for European schools, but otherwise must fall into line with Anglo-Vernacular teachers and share the same normal institutions. It is too early however yet to pass judgment on the working of the new regulations which came into force in June 1915. They certainly set a higher standard of requirement in respect of initial qualifications. The literary and theoretical work is undoubtedly on a fairly high level, but it remains to be seen whether the practical training is as sufficient and efficient as is necessary. To prevent undue hardship to Burmese girls certain concessions have been made but in time these will become unnecessary; the successes recently obtained at the Morton Lane and Kemmendine schools show that Burmese girls can under proper tuition reach the requisite standard. The elementary training classes for Vernacular teachers continued to thrive. There are now 201 elementary teachers receiving Government pay posted out among Vernacular schools. In addition there are others without regular Government pay who after passing out have obtained employment and are aided when funds allow. The expenditure on normal schools rose from Rs. 1,83,592 to Rs. 1,95,053. Provincial funds provided Rs. 1,85,400 and the balance came from private sources.

European schools.

181. The number of schools increased from 30 to 32, that of pupils from 4,204 to 4,487, a much larger increase than in the previous year. The number of pupils in the secondary stage rose from 1,485 to 1,583. In addition to Europeans and Anglo-Indians in European schools must be reckoned the Anglo-Indians in Anglo-Vernacular schools who number 425. European schools receive Asiatics, and in increasing numbers: the total number of non-European pupils in such schools is now 723. One school in Rangoon is for the Jewish community. No important changes were made in curricula during the year and no striking innovations were attempted by managers. Cooking was taught at four schools. The difficulty was to find competent teachers, especially as the subject is not yet properly organized in the normal schools. All girls' schools taught needle work. Drill was done in all schools except one. Gymnastics were taken in 6 boys' schools. Science was still conspicuous by its absence. For the B.A. 1 male and 2 female students appeared and all passed. For the I.A. out of 4 male and 10 female candidates, 2 men and 10 women passed. In the European High School Examination 40 passed (16 boys and 24 girls) out of 96 candidates, apart from 7 non-Europeans. The total expenditure on European Education fell from

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Rs. 9·08 lakhs to Rs. 4·70 lakhs. Provincial funds provided Rs. 2,24,343 as against Rs. 4,75,169 in the previous year, and the remainder came from municipal funds, fees and other sources. The large decrease was due to a large reduction in building grants which were curtailed owing to financial stringency.

Education of Mahomedans and special classes.

182. The total number of Mahomedans in public or private institutions increased from 20,810 to 22,519. Of these 14,827 were in public institutions; or in other words, in Burma the number of Mahomedans attending registered schools constituted not quite 4 per cent. of the whole attendance for the Province. The number of Mahomedan Anglo-Vernacular schools remained the same, 4, the attendance at which increased by 16 only. The balance of Mahomedan Anglo-Vernacular pupils attend Anglo-Burmese schools. Mahomedan Vernacular schools numbered 167 with 7,517 pupils against 143 schools and 6,545 pupils in 1914-15. These figures are exclusive of private elementary Koran schools, the number of which has declined by 9, though pupils have increased by 209 and now nearly equal the total in public Mahomedan Vernacular schools. The number of Mahomedan girls under instruction increased from 2,823 to 3,154 in public and from 1,721 to 1,878 in private institutions. Examination results show that the passes were as follows:—B.A. 1, I.A. 4, I.Sc. 1, Matriculation 13, Anglo-Vernacular High School Final 9. It should be explained that the term "special classes" in Burma covers a congeries of various races and tribes ranging in the scale of culture from the hardy representatives of a frank and almost untamed barbarism (*e.g.*, Chins, Lawas, Kachins) to the inheritors of ancient and historic civilizations like the Chinese and Talaings. But it does not cover what in India are known as "depressed classes," unless certain elements in the immigrant Indian population are to be included in this category. In Burma in fact there are no "depressed classes" native to the country, if we exclude the small and rapidly dwindling band of unfortunates formerly styled, "pagoda slaves" and such communities as grave-diggers and professional beggars; and even they are not "untouchables" in the Indian sense. The total number of pupils belonging to "special classes" under instruction in public schools was 70,628 or 3,982 more than last year. Of this total 54,367 attended special schools; and of this last figure 5,630 were in Anglo-Vernacular schools. Government maintains seven schools with 593 pupils: the rest are aided institutions. The figure for private schools was 16,970 a rise of 791. In Anglo-Vernacular special schools Karens were the most numerous, but the Tamils and Telugus ran them close. Talaings attend Anglo-Burmese schools and for English education are not distinguished in the returns from Burmans. In the Vernacular sphere also most of them attend Burmese schools, but some 4,600 are returned as in special schools. Karen Vernacular pupils in special schools far exceed all others. There was an extraordinary increase among the Taungthus who now have 24 schools with 783 scholars against 11 with 198 in the previous year. A striking improvement was also recorded for the Inthas for whom 75 schools and 1,815 pupils are now returned instead of 22 and 786. A slight decline was reported for Chins, Shans and Palaungs. These special schools follow in the main the curriculum and regulations laid down for ordinary 'A' or 'B' Vernacular schools, but special arrangements are made in regard to the use of the Vernacular and Burmese and the adoption of non-Burmese Vernacular text-books.

Female education.

183. The total number of girls reported as "under instruction" was 117,273 which represents a percentage of 13·18 of the female school-going population. Of this total 113,301 attended 'public' institutions, a rise of 4,770 on the figure of 1914-15. Four-fifths of these pupils however were in the Lower Primary stage only. Owing to the prevalence of 'co-education' 73·78 per cent. of girls in 'public' institutions are to be found in boys' schools, and in girls' schools over one-third of the pupils are boys. Another outstanding feature of female education in Burma is the fact that with the exception of seven Vernacular girls' schools (five secondary and two primary) belonging to Government and conducted directly by the department, no institution for girls is owned, managed or conducted by any public local authority or body. Apart from the seven Government schools

all other girls' schools belong to aided managers. Public control over all these institutions, Government and aided alike, is exercised purely by and through the Education Department. In the European and Anglo-Vernacular spheres in nearly all cases managers are members of or represent Christian missionary bodies. In the Vernacular field missionary enterprise, for somewhat obscure but intelligible reasons, is less conspicuous, and the majority of schools belong to Buddhist or other non-Christian managers. The indigenous system of elementary education provided by the monasteries has until quite recently not touched girls. Such progress in female education as has been achieved by Burma has been due to the agencies indicated above. To certain of the Government schools visiting committees, composed of local officials and notables are attached: the functions of these bodies are limited to visitation, comment and suggestion.

The number of girls under Anglo-Vernacular instruction (exclusive of girls in European schools) was 4,128. No important changes were introduced in either the Anglo-Vernacular or Vernacular curriculum. As the result of the difficulties connected with the hygiene and domestic economy courses, after the close of the year, a strong committee of ladies was brought together with instructions to frame a revised course of instruction in these subjects on a practical basis and with direct reference to Burmese home conditions. In good Anglo-Vernacular schools really effective training in this direction is already given. In examinations 2 girls appeared for the B.A. and 16 for the I.A. and of these 2 and 13 respectively passed. The American Baptist Mission schools at Morton Lane, Moulmein and Kemmendine presented 6 and 4 pupils respectively for the Anglo-Vernacular High School Final and 5 and 3 passed. Out of 18 girls appearing for the Matriculation 10 passed. In the Middle School Anglo-Vernacular Scholarship examination 4 girls gained scholarships. The total expenditure on Female Education rose from Rs. 5·44 lakhs to Rs. 6·12 lakhs.

Reformatory School, Insein.

184. The Reformatory, Insein, sheltered an average of 102 boys as against 103 in 1914-15: of these 67 are Burmans, 16 Indians and the rest of Chinese and mixed parentage. The crafts taught are agriculture, carpentry, tin-smithing and shoe-making. The gradual abolition of the "cage cubicle" system of dormitories was decided upon and a start was made in March 1916. Changes in the rules were approved by the Local Government with a view to placing the institution more directly under the Director of Public Instruction and the Education Department, without however dispensing with the valuable services of the Committee of Visitors.

Literature and the Press.

Publications registered.

185. The number of books published fell from 302 in 1914 to 275, the lowest figure recorded during the preceding five years. Of the total, 147 were in the Burmese language, and the subject of 142 was religion. Works on history increased in number and consisted almost entirely of works in Burmese on the great war, two histories of which are being published in parts. Works classified under the head "Drama" increased from 3 in number to 11, of which 9 were in Burmese and 2 in Gujerati. One of the Burmese specimens was reported to the police as obscene and suppressed. Of the two Gujerati dramas one was a love-story and one described the evil of ill-treating menial servants. The seven Burmese works of fiction were all love-stories written in conversational style, but devoid of literary merit and rarely reaching more than one edition. There were three novels in English, one of which appears to be a republication of a well-known 'curious' work of the eighteenth century, the open sale of which in the United Kingdom has long been prohibited. The most important of the publications under the head of "Language" was a revised edition of Judson's Burmese-English Dictionary formerly revised by Stevenson. The works classified as "Miscellaneous" in English were few. A work by Colonel Castor, I.M.S., on "The care of Mothers and Infants" was perhaps the most important. Noteworthy among the works in Burmese under the same category were accounts of the military, commercial and educational systems of the German Empire and of

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Turkey in connection with the war. Kin Maung Gyi's "How to become rich" and Maung Kyaw's "The Way to health" are apparently intended to teach Burmans that unless they unite and adopt the business methods of the West they cannot expect to prosper in trade. U Okgantha's "Po-u-daung Thamaing" narrates the legend connected with the hill known as Po-u-daung opposite the town of Prome. Of the three English works classified under the head of "Religion" two are on Christianity and the third deals with "Reforms that the Burmese Buddhist Church needs." In this essay the author puts forward theories regarding an ideal church of Buddha and gives advice on the formation of character. Of the 142 works on religion 68 were in Burmese and 21 in Pâli, the latter being nearly all commentaries on the Buddhist scriptures. Most of those in Burmese are essays on such subjects as the birth stories of Gautama Buddha, the Buddhist scriptures, sermons, prayer, meditation and charity.

Presses, newspapers and periodicals.

186. Excluding the Government presses there were 154 presses in the Province as compared with 168 in the previous year. In Rangoon seven presses were closed and five new presses were established. Four presses were closed in Tharrawaddy District and two in each of the Amherst and Ma-ubin Districts. Other districts in each of which one press was closed were Insein, Hanthawaddy, Prome, Bassein and Thayetmyo. One press was closed in the Thatôn District and another established. One new press was set up in Kyauksè. All these presses were very humble affairs, worked by hand and adapted only for the printing of leaflets and similar matter. The number of newspapers published fell from 58 to 49. In Rangoon five ceased publication and one new venture was launched; in Moulmein three and in Mandalay one of the local papers came to an end. Of the daily newspapers three were in English, three in Burmese, one in Anglo-Burmese, one in Chinese and two in Tamil. Of the total number of newspapers, daily and other, nineteen were in English, twelve in Burmese, five in Anglo-Burmese, one in Chinese, one in Gujerati, two in Kachin, one in Pwo-Karen, five in Sgaw-Karen, two in Tamil and one in Urdu. Of the periodicals other than those published at Government presses thirteen were in English, ten in Burmese, two in Anglo-Burmese, one in Pwo-Karen and two in Sgaw-Karen.

Literary Societies.

See paragraph 294 of the *Report on the Administration of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Rangoon societies.

187. No new societies were formed during the year and existing societies presented no new points of interest. The membership of the Rangoon literary society was 140, the same as in the previous year. Visitors to the library and reading room of the Rangoon Teachers' Association numbered 8,284 as against 7,995. The Bernard Free Library was visited by 7,648 persons; it contains 10,246 books and 4,902 manuscripts.

Arts and Sciences.

188. The condition of the art industries of the Province is practically unchanged from last year. Times are bad and will probably continue to be bad for some while. The first industries to be hit in periods of financial stress are the art industries and they are the last to recover. At the same time the organisation of these industries would aid greatly in their recovery and much remains to be done in this direction. Co-operation has this year extended to the lacquer workers; one group having formed a society, and the effect of this on their trade will be a matter of considerable interest. The Saunders Weaving Institute at Amarapura has extended its scope; students attend from all parts of the Province and the benefits derived from the instruction given are already apparent.

The chief event of the year was the Annual Art Exhibition which was held in January 1916. Owing to the small number of orders given to the craftsmen before the exhibition the exhibits were not so numerous as in previous years.

The regular system of art scholarships inaugurated last year was continued. To facilitate the supervision of the work of the scholars sanction was given to the entertainment of a master woodcarver at the headquarters of the Provincial Art Officer,—the Government School of Engineering, Insein—and the wood carving apprentices are trained there under the master craftsman. He does not receive pay but works for himself and is aided in getting work. The young apprentices are given a small amount of training in the Engineering shops thus helping them to become better joiners without which progress in their craft is improbable. The future of wood carving lies in internal decoration instead of external work as formerly and in its new venue accurate joinery is essential. Sanction was accorded to the entertainment of a master bronze worker on a similar basis.

CHAPTER VIII.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

REFERENCE :

Report of the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Burma, for the year 1915-16.

189. The programme of work of the Archæological Department for the year comprised ten items; satisfactory progress was made in all save two involving excavation which, for reasons beyond the control of the department, could not be undertaken. The preparation of materials for a monograph on the terra-cotta plaques found at and near the Petleik Pagoda at Pagan was continued, and photographs which had become defective through lack of time were replaced. Only four plaques are now wanting to complete the whole collection of 550 Jatakas, and the writing of the monograph is ready to be begun. Mr. Duroiselle completed the decipherment and translation of the Talaing inscriptions on the 400 plaques at the Ananda Temple at Pagan which illustrate the last ten great Jatakas, and in the course of this work he made a useful collection of 3,000 Talaing words not included in existing vocabularies. Further materials were obtained for the compilation of a history of Architecture at Pagan and more light has been thrown on the influence on it of Cambodian, Chalukyan and Dravidian styles of architecture. Progress was made with the translation of the first volume of the "Inscriptions collected in Upper Burma, 1900" and of the "Inscriptions collected by King Bodawpaya, Upper Burma, and now placed near the Patodawgyi Pagoda, Amarapura." A chronological list of all inscriptions found in Burma has been compiled for the period from the end of the eleventh, to the first quarter of the fourteenth, century, and the remainder of the list is nearly finished. The transliteration and translation, with notes, of the Burmese portion of the inscription on the Myazedi Pagoda at Pagan is the first of a series of epigraphs which it is proposed to publish in Burma under the designation of Epigraphia Birmanica; and for this purpose a scheme of transliteration has been prepared. The preparation of a Provincial List of ancient remains in Burma, a work involving much time and trouble, has been completed by the publication of the list. The funds available for works of preservation and restoration were curtailed owing to the financial stringency, but it was found possible to continue the repairs to the east Petleik Pagoda at Pagan and to conserve the Sarabha gate, the only remnant of the circuit wall of Pagan built in the ninth century. Perhaps the most interesting archæological event of the year was the discovery at the Paya-thôn-zu and Nandamañña temples, situated at Min-nan-thu village, a few miles north-east of Pagan, of frescoes of Tantric character which afford evidence of the existence there of the Mahayanist or northern school of Buddhism prior to the introduction of the southern school or Hinayanism which followed upon the conquest of Thatôn by Anorata in 1057 A. D. This discovery seems to necessitate some modification of the hitherto accepted view that the development of Burmese civilisation dates from that epoch and is based upon Talaing learning and culture. Its significance is enhanced by linguistic considerations which go to indicate that fundamental terms relating to Buddhism have not reached the Burmese language through the medium of Talaing, but rather suggest the existence, at a period anterior to Talaing influence, of a Sanskrit Canon derived from China. It is also noteworthy from the same point of view that Sanskrit forms predominate over Pâli in the Burmese inscription on the Myazedi pillar, which dates from 1112 A. D. This pillar is the earliest lithic record yet discovered in Burma and the inscriptions on it, besides furnishing chronological evidence of great historical value, have led to the practical rediscovery, through the labours of Mr. C. O. Blagden, of the language of the Pyu; a race which at one time must have exercised a powerful influence in central and southern Burma, though its representatives at the present day have not yet been traced. Further information concerning this remarkable people may be anticipated if it is found possible to decipher the inscriptions discovered at Hmawza in the Prome District, or to establish their affinity with existing races by means of linguistic research.

The sum expended on archæological works during the year was Rs. 14,852 as compared with Rs. 33,933 in 1914-15. The cost of the archæological survey was Rs. 33,939 an increase of Rs. 1,654 over the figures for the previous year.

CHAPTER IX.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REFERENCES—

Reports of the Chemical Examiner and the Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma for the year 1915.

Statistical Abstract for British India, Volume IV.

Report on the working of the office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma, for the year ending the 31st March 1916.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

See paragraphs 297 to 300 of the *Report on the Administration of the Government of Burma* for the year 1911-12.

Ecclesiastical.

190. During the year of report with the exception of special services held in connexion with the war there is no event of importance to record.

Stationery.

191. The bulk of the paper used for official purposes continued to be supplied by the Controller of Printing, Stationery and Stamps, Calcutta, from the Indian Mills. The cost of stationery supplied to General Departments and Presses in Burma during the year amounted to Rs. 72,697 and Rs. 2,16,625 respectively, shewing decreases of Rs. 1,847 and Rs. 5,677 under General Departments and Government Presses respectively, as compared with the previous year.

Offices of the Chemical Examiner and the Bacteriologist to the Government of Burma.

192. During the year of report only 23,834 examinations were conducted in the General Analytical Department against 30,671 in the previous year. This is attributed to the falling off in the number of cocaine samples examined. Under orders of Government the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Burma, Rangoon, has been appointed Government Bacteriologist, thereby relieving the Chemical Examiner of Bacteriological work. Though the total number of water samples examined has fallen slightly from 378 in 1914 to 367 in the year of report, Municipalities have taken much interest in respect to the chemical purity or otherwise of their water supplies. In the Bacteriological Department a decrease of 314 in the number of articles examined was noticed.

Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, Burma.

193. The Government Presses in the Province are three in number, *viz.*, the Central Press and the Jail Branch Press, both in Rangoon, and the Maymyo Branch Press. The work which is carried out at these Presses is chiefly printing for Government Departments and has been noticed in Chapter VII *supra*, in the section entitled "Literature and the Press." The receipts amounted to Rs. 47,260 in the year of report against Rs. 47,333 in the previous year and

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the expenditure to Rs. 3,75,057 against Rs. 4,08,314. Printing work to the value of Rs. 1,787 was given out to private presses during the year. The value of outturn of work from the Central Press was Rs. 3,11,567, from the Jail Branch Press Rs. 86,292, and from the Maymyo Branch Press Rs. 14,928, in all Rs. 4,12,787. The corresponding total for 1914-15 was Rs. 4,33,519. The value of dead stock at the three Presses, exclusive of lands and buildings, is estimated at Rs. 5,55,474, against Rs. 6,52,272 in the year previous. The total sales, excluding Gazettes, at the Government Book Depôt and by the authorized agents amounted to Rs. 19,494, while the additions to stock were valued at Rs. 73,508 against Rs. 15, 080 and Rs. 83,873 respectively in the year previous. Acts and publications to the value of Rs. 51,801 were supplied gratis against Rs. 43,580 during the previous year.

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